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TRUST MISSES TARGET FOR A&E WAITING AND EARLY CANCER CARE

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

...but 'planned operations and care' and 'mental health therapy' score well in mixed results report

LATEST statistics for Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust show the trust has missed national targets for A&E waiting times and early cancer care.

Figures released by the BBC revealed rising numbers of patients nationally needing hospital care, from accident and emergency to cancer treatment and planned operations such as knee and hip replacements, while growing numbers of people are also reported to be struggling with mental health.

There are strict targets which local services are expected to meet and, according to the BBC report, Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust are struggling in two areas.

The trust is missing the 95% target for A&E waits of less than four hours - with a score of 88.4%. The national average was 89.1% so the trust was below that too, placing it 60th out of 130 trusts.

Against the 85% target for cancer care within 62 days, they scored 70.9%, well below the national average of 78.9% and 111th of the 130 trusts.

However, it was a different story for planned operations and care within an 18 weeks set target and mental health therapy within a six weeks set target, in both of which the trust scored higher than both the target and the national average scores.

For planned operations and care, which had a target of 92% they scored 95.3%, well above the national average of 86.7% - putting them in the top four out of 126 trusts.

Southport Hospital

For mental health therapy within six weeks, which had a target of 75% they scored 96%, putting them once again above the national average, which was 89.5% - and placing them 56 out of 195 trusts.

The trust's current Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection rating is 'Requires improvement.'

Since last winter, the Government has invested an additional £145m of funding to upgrade emergency departments and wards.

In February, the Champion revealed that an additional £1.3m grant was to be given to the trust to help it cope with winter pressures.

A new £1.25m state-of-the-art 'module' was added to the existing building at Southport Hospital's A&E department which aims to increase the number of patients who can be seen and treated and reduce waiting times as well as easing the pressure on admissions at busy periods.

As well as this, a new £136,000 discharge and transfer lounge for patients who are ready to go home has been opened at Southport Hospital, while an eight-bed Clinical Decision Unit opened in the spring.

The trust has also been investing in clinical staff. More than £300,000 is being spent expanding the Critical Care Outreach Team to a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week operation. The team helps with the treatment of patients whose condition begins to deteriorate unexpectedly. The trust also recruited three further orthopaedic consultants, two more consultant radiologists and five additional senior doctors.

Chief says A&E performance is a 'priority'

CHIEF operating officer at Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust, Steve Christian, in responding to the BBC report, told the Champion: "We (trust) remain one of the best hospitals in the country for treating patients within 18 weeks after referral from their GP. This has been a consistent feature of the service and care we give patients for a number of years.

"A&E performance is a priority for the trust and has improved consistently this year, making us one of the better performing NHS trusts in Cheshire and Merseyside. October was the fourth month in succession where performance was better than last year. This is despite two days in summer when record numbers of patients attended Southport hospital for treatment.

Chief operating officer Steve Christian.

"Our staff are embracing new ways of working to improve patients' journey through hospital. This includes working hard to get more patients home sooner, freeing up beds for those who need admitting from A&E.

Dedicated

"A new clinical communications hub is helping coordinate patient flow as we embrace technology and intelligence drawn from our patient data to support decision-making at busy times.

"We have also begun to reap the benefits of the £1.25m investment in A&E that began in the spring. The first part of the final phase of the work was completed in November and includes a dedicated ambulance reception area. The final 40% of the A&E project, which includes a bigger, brighter reception area and waiting room, will be open by Christmas.

Continued inside

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Family of motorway crash victim launch legal action against Highways England

'Accident black spot' should have been resurfaced - claim

by Danielle Thompson

LEGAL action has been launched against Highways England by the family of a man who was killed after his car 'aquaplaned' on the M58 near Bickerstaffe.

Father-of-three David Dale, 68, suffered fatal injuries in the accident on the motorway on Boxing Day, December 26, 2014.

His daughter, who was a passenger in the car at the time of the accident, and his estate, are now bringing legal proceedings against Highways England who are responsible for the motorway, which passes through West Lancashire linking Aintree with Orrell.

David Dale

Robert Davies

Campaign

They say the road should have been resurfaced as water had been known to gather at a stretch of the motorway for several years creating an 'accident black spot' between junctions 1 and 3.

More than 40 serious accidents were recorded at the same spot during a five-year period.

An investigation into an accident in 2011, in which dad-of-one Robert Davies was killed after his car aquaplaned found that it may have been caused by excess water on the road and his mother Susan asked Highways England to have the road resurfaced.

She launched a campaign for safety improvements in 2015 after Mr Dale's fatal accident, and work was undertaken later that month by Highways England to resurface some of the road, but not all of the affected stretch.

A spokesman for Highways England said: "Highways England is responsible for the operating, maintaining and improving the motorway network and the safety of road users is a key priority. As this particular matter is subject to legal action we cannot comment further."

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Double milestone for church campaigners

Roof appeal fund tops £250,000 mark and first phase of restoration work is completed

Report by **Kenny Parker**

PARISHONERS of a historic church are celebrating two milestones after four years of fundraising.

An appeal was launched in 2015 to restore the roof of the Grade II listed St Anne's RC Church in Ormskirk.

A leak in the roof had caused flooding in areas of the 150-year-old building prompting a bid to raise £500,000.

That was the sum identified as needed to finance a complete renovation of the roof of the Grade II listed structure in Prescot Road.

A fundraising campaign was launched with events such as raffles and sponsored walks, along with many individual donations.

Now the appeal fund has passed the £250,000 mark and the first phase of the full roof restoration has been completed.

Delighted

Initially a 'first aid" programme was organised to patch up the parts of the church in most urgent need of repair. Then in April the first full restoration project started to rebuild the roof above the sanctuary area.

This work has now been completed and the priests can be confident of staying dry during Mass!

The second phase is planned for 2019 when the high roof of the nave will be completely lifted, rebuilt and re-tiled.

Because of the church's Grade II listing it must be restored in exactly the same style and materials.

Chair of the fundraising committee, Phil Wilkinson, said: "I am delighted that we have completed the first phase of this important project and am extremely grateful to everyone who has contributed their time, ideas, prayers and money to our appeal.

Junior members of St Anne's roof appeal fundraising committee, Imogen and Orla Johnson, show the passing of the £250,000 mark.

"Quarter of a million pounds is a massive achievement, but it is only half of what we need to finish the whole project, so the fundraising will continue in 2019."

For more information about the project or to donate email stanneschurchroofappeal@gmail.com.

Northern Rail chaos is affecting lives and local economy, says passenger group

MP urged to report 'failing' company to Transport Select Committee

A RAIL users' group has written to West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper calling for Northern Rail to be referred to the Transport Select Committee over the failings of the Ormskirk to Preston service, saying its unreliability is affecting peoples lives and the local economy.

The Ormskirk Preston Southport Passenger Association (OPSTA) says matters have come to a head after services between Ormskirk and Preston were cancelled for the whole of last week.

In a letter to Ms Cooper, OPSTA committee member Paul Dickie, accused the company of acting as if autumn had never happened before! He said: "This year is no different to any other year, we live in a temperate climate with deciduous trees which shed their leaves during autumn,

Unreliable

"The service has been poor for most of the time since May 21, but this week matters have come to a head and we request that you bring this matter to the attention of the Transport Select Committee as I believe Northern to be failing in their franchise commitment.

"People rely on this service to get to and from work, college, hospital appointments, shopping or just visiting friends and family. Something has to be done and has to be done now as the unreliable service is affecting the lives of many people and the economy of West Lancashire."

In response Chris Jackson, Regional Director for Northern, said: "Leaves on the line, whilst often joked about, are a serious problem and can significantly affect the braking and acceleration of trains. In the worst cases the black ice-like conditions the leaves create can cause flat spots on train wheels which means the carriages have to be taken out of service and repaired.

"Of course, these conditions happen every year and we work closely with Network Rail to try to ensure the tracks are in the best possible conditions for our trains. Unfortunately the conditions of the past fortnight have been unprecedented and, on some days, have resulted in more than 30 carriages having to be removed from the network."

"Cancelling an entire route is not a decision we take lightly, but the unusual circumstances called for extreme measures. The trains which operate the Ormskirk line were those most affected by the autumn conditions and the route itself was also problematic. When we were unable to operate trains we did provide a reliable rail replacement service which ensured our customers on the line were still able to get where they needed to be.

"We remain absolutely committed to providing the best possible service for our customers, but know more needs to be done. That's why we are investing more than £600m which will see the introduction of 98 brand new trains onto the network, the refurbishment of the remaining 243 trains in our fleet, and the retirement of all Pacers by 2020."

Rosie Cooper has been approached for comment.

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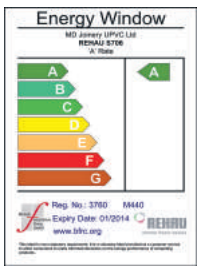

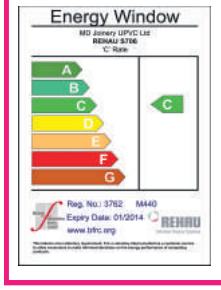

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New chair appointed to hospital trust board

Report by **Henry James**

'Highly experienced' businessman Neil will take up role on December 1

THERE is a new chair of the board of the Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust.

NHS Improvement has confirmed the appointment of "highly experienced" North West businessman, Neil Masom OBE.

With nearly 20 years of board-level experience in executive and non-executive roles in both the commercial and public sectors, Neil succeeds Richard Fraser who steps down after two years in the post.

Richard will continue as chair at St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

An engineer by profession, Neil began his career with the former Hawker Siddeley Aviation company in 1977 before going on to gain more than 30 years' experience with BAE Systems, primarily in Manchester and Lancashire, holding three managing director posts at the company between 2000 and 2009.

He has held and continues to perform a number of non-executive posts, including as chairman of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Services Organisation (2000-2006) and as a non-executive director at East Cheshire NHS Trust in Macclesfield (2009-2013).

He is currently senior independent director at WYG plc, a successful international engineering consultancy, and has just completed a four-year term as audit committee chair at HS2 Limited, the company responsible for designing and building the UK's new high-speed rail network.

Neil Masom OBE who has been appointed chair of the board of Southport and Ormskirk NHS Hospital Trust.

Neil said: "I am delighted to have been selected to serve the community of Southport, Formby and West Lancashire. The trust has been through some challenging times in recent years but the dedicated workforce, now under Silas's leadership, is generating a growing confidence from all stakeholders. I look forward to building on that and helping the team deliver the very best healthcare that the community deserves and the staff wish to deliver."

Trust chief executive, Silas Nicholls, added: "It is a privilege to welcome Neil to the trust. His wide-ranging experience and knowledge will be invaluable in shaping our hospitals and the great health care we want to provide for local people

Confidence

"His appointment reflects a growing confidence in the trust which can only be of benefit to patients and staff.

"I also wish Richard Fraser well for the future and thank him for his dedication to the trust, common sense chairmanship and good humour through occasionally difficult times."

Neil starts his term as chair on December 1. It ends on November 20, 2020 and he will receive remuneration of £30,000 per annum. He has not declared any political activity in the last five years.

He will be joined on the board in January by Dr Terry Hankin who has been appointed medical director. He is currently deputy medical director at St Helens and Knowsley.

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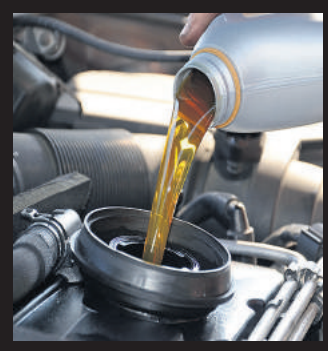
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Sunday switch-on gets town's festive celebrations underway

Report by **Kenny Parker**

CHRISTMAS is now 'officially' underway in Ormskirk following a well-attended lights switch-on event in the town centre.

West Lancs Council arranged a host of activities and performances to celebrate the occasion which was moved from its traditional Friday evening slot to Sunday afternoon with the aim of enabling more people to attend.

And the new slot certainly proved popular with some visitors. Among comments on social media were that it was a "great turn out" and a "brilliant afternoon", while another post read: "Fantastic afternoon today for the lights switch-on! It was so much better being on a Sunday and the town centre was heaving! Fingers crossed it's going to stay on a Sunday from now on."

Sunday also saw Ormksirk's first Santa Dash to raise money for the Mayor of West Lancs' chosen charities, namely the 37th Ormskirk Scouts and Blossom's Legacy.

Meanwhile entertainment included Tony Scarth with his acclaimed Tom Jones tribute act and ice sculptor Matt Foster.

A piper led a procession of dignitaries and fellow guests from Ormskirk Parish Church to the main stage at the Clock Tower for the carol service conducted by local clergy and featuring the Friends In Unison Choir and Skelmersdale Prize Brass Band.

As part of the service the Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Noel Delaney, gave a Christmas address, while the official switch-on was conducted by Town Crier, Don Evans.

Town Crier Don Evans and the Mayor, Councillor Noel Delaney lead the countdown to the big switch-on from the main stage.

Some of the crowds who flocked to the town centre for the switch-on event.

Ice sculptor Matt Foster with one of his creations featured at the Christmas Lights switch on.

A&E performance 'is a priority' says hospital trust chief

From Page 1

"The trust treats a relatively small number of cancer patients which means even a single delayed patient can have a disproportionate effect on our apparent performance. In November we plan for at least 85% of patients to start their treatment within 62 days of referral from their GP. We are working with partners at other trusts, who provide diagnostic services, to help us sustain this improvement.

"Many of these improvements are down to the dedication of our brilliant staff. I want to thank them for their continued commitment to improving the quality and experience of care for our patients."

Pensioner's fundraiser for Parkinson's charity in memory of wife

A PENSIONER from Rufford is holding a quiz night at a local pub to raise funds for a charity in memory of his late wife.

The quiz, at the Hesketh Arms in Rufford on Tuesday, December 4, is the first of a series of events planned by 81-year-old Ron Snape in aid of Parkinson's UK.

His wife, Pauline died in August this year aged 79, having contracted Parkinson's in 2014 and the charity provided support for her following her diagnosis .

Ron Said: "After seeing what the disease did to my wife I just want to raise money to help others who are suffering from it."

The quiz will start at 9pm and costs just £1 to enter. The pub has also been selling tickets for a raffle to be held on the night for prizes donated by local businesses.

Manager of the Hesketh Arms, Dave Welding, said: "We are just happy to support our local community. Both Ron and Pauline used the pub.

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Sporting Challenge charity hoping to earn a Co-op 'divi'!

MEMBERS of a West Lancs charity are hoping that local Co-op members will help provide them with a welcome 'dividend' by choosing it as their good cause for the year.

Sporting Challenge, which provides activities for young people and adults with learning disabilities, has been selected as one of Co-op's causes of the year as part of its Local Community Fund project.

Under the project every time someone registered with the store's membership scheme shops at a local store, 1% of what they spend on Co-op branded products and services goes to the good cause of their choice.

Funds raised through the scheme - which has raised more £39million for some 12,000 causes since it was introduced in 2017 - will be presented in two installments in June and November 2019.

Set up in 2008 by a group of parent carers, Sporting Challenge presently has 55 members receiving support and enjoying activities including tenpin bowling, boccia, swimming. aerobics, keep fit and pool. The charity also organises short breaks for members.

Activities co-ordinator, Edward McCarthy, said: "To Co-op members in West Lancashire if you would like to support the much-needed work we do please select us a good cause when you use the Co-op. It will help fund our sessions and a planned short break for next year."

Co-op members can choose which causes to support by signing into their membership account or by calling the membership helpline on 0800 023 4708. Anyone wishing to nominate Sporting Challenge can do so until next November.

Members of Sporting Challenge enjoying a day out at the Lake District on one of their breaks.

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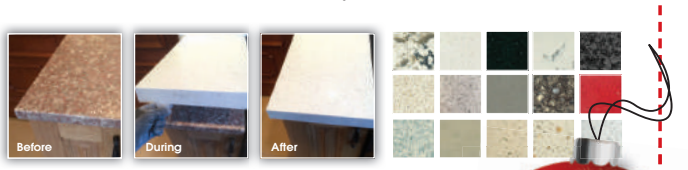

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Work-based pilot will give Edge Hill students a career head start

EDGE Hill is the only university in the North West offering Early Childhood Studies students a step up the career ladder - thanks to a new qualification being piloted.

Those students on the Early Childhood Studies course at the Ormskirk campus who opt to complete a new competencies qualification will be able to enter employment at a higher level putting them potentially years ahead of fellow graduates.

The new Early Childhood Graduate Practitioner Certificate (ECGPC) is being piloted at eight universities across the UK but Edge Hill is the only one in the North West to offer the extra qualification.

Students who decide to combine their degree with the ECGPC and complete more than 80 hours of work experience can enter the jobs market with up to a Level 6 early education professional qualification, putting them several years ahead of graduates entering with a standard Level 2.

Dr Sally Hester and Dr Julie Sealy from the Department of Social Sciences brought the ECGPC to Edge Hill.

Senior lecturer Dr Hester, said: "Students have the choice to opt in to the competencies running parallel to the BA (Hons) degree. By spending time in real workplaces relevant to their future careers they can achieve the competencies and ultimately enter employment at leader level, in positions that might normally take a person a number of years to reach through career progression.

"The ECGPC will also help potential employers as it clarifies the skills graduates have practiced and gives them a portfolio of evidence to showcase the nine competencies."

The competencies include advocacy for children's rights, child protection, partnerships with parents and caregivers and inclusive practice.

Dr Julie Sealy, senior lecturer in Early Years Education, added: "We're delighted to have been asked to pilot this qualification as we're always looking for new ways to make our degree different and put our graduates ahead of the competition."

NT support group's festive concert date

THE Ormskirk and District Association of National Trust Members and Supporters is holding a Christmas concert on Thursday, December 13 at Christ Church Ministry Centre, Long Lane, Aughton.

Members of the public are invited to join the group as it gets into the Christmas spirit with a glass of punch and a mince pie while listening to an evening of music provided by the local branch of The Rock Choir, a contemporary choir of the UK with more than 20,000 members nationwide.

Starting time is 7.30pm and organisers say the music will be varied to suit all tastes.

Tickets, priced £12, are available from Pat Dixon tel. 01257 464440.

Motorist wins her five-month battle for refund of £1 parking fee!

Report by **Kenny Parker**

A MOTORIST from Aughton who mistakenly paid to park on a West Lancs Council-run car park on a Sunday has won a five-month battle for reimbursement from the local authority of the princely sum of £1!

Fiona Wylie says she has pursued the refund as a matter of principle after claiming that a sign indicating it was free to park on the Wheatsheaf car park in Ormskirk on Sundays was obscured by a new machine the council had installed.

And the 40-year-old, a commercial finance controller for a manufacturing company, claims the council only finally agreed to reimburse her after she contacted the Champion and threatened to take them to court!

Fiona says she first contacted the council in July to tell them about the matter and request a refund. However, she says her request was ignored, despite an initial reply which said her enquiry had been directed to the right department.

After hearing nothing further she sent two more emails to the department but again to no avail.

Finally, she sent another message on Tuesday, November 6, which read: "I am asking for a refund of £1 for a clearly poorly advertised parking charge and some constructive response on what you are doing about the issue.

"Should be very simple but nothing. Silence is deafening. What is happening? What actions are you taking to deal with this?

"This is not the end of this, it is the principle here, I will not be bullied by the local council, I pay my taxes, the council work for the people, we fund the service, we do not expect to be ripped off and ignored. This is an injustice.

"I have copied in the local paper but I also know my consumer rights and the law and I will pursue in the Small Claims Court in the next seven days if you do not respond to me constructively."

The sign in Wheatsheaf car park which Fiona says didn't clearly display the charges.

Fiona then received a reply from the designated council officer at 8.34am the following morning.

This read: "Sincere apologies for the delay in responding. We are currently in the process of updating our tariff boards to improve visibility. We will arrange for a refund to be sent in the post as soon as possible. Thank you for bringing this to my attention."

A spokesperson for the local authority told the Champion: "West Lancashire Borough Council accepts that the positioning of the payment machines in its Ormskirk car parks partially obscure some of the writing on the information boards from some angles.

"The information on the boards is not, however, totally hidden by the machines and on closer inspection the times when charges apply is clearly stated, as is the fact that parking is free on Sundays and Bank Holidays. The council was aware of the issue and commissioned works to rectify the problem which have been completed.

"Notwithstanding the above, in a gesture of goodwill, the council has refunded the driver the £1 she mistakenly paid and apologised for the delay in responding to her complaint."

Fiona says she received a pound coin taped to a piece of card along with a compliment slip.

Nine-year-old performs church Christmas tree lights switch-on

LOCAL youngster Abbie Robinson earned the honour of performing the official switch-on of the Ormskirk Parish Church Christmas Tree lights after winning a quiz organised by traditional confectionery store, Sweet Memories, in conjunction with the Our West Lancashire independent political group.

The nine-year-old Year 5 pupil at Ormskirk CE Primary was accompanied by West Lancs town crier, Don Evans, while a piper also played at the event.

Restored

The parish church tree was originally provided by West Lancs Council but due to budget cuts, funding was withdrawn in 2016.

However, the much-loved feature was restored last year following a community fundraising drive led by Our West Lancashire.

That initial appeal raised enough money to cover the cost of the tree this year as well, although some added fundraising was still required for the purchase of new lights. Donations towards the new lights can still be made at Scott's Butchers in Church Street.

The Christmas tree at Ormskirk Parish Church.

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MP supports children's hospice call for more Government funding

ROSIE Cooper has met with the chief executive of a children's hospice to discuss its work and pledge her support for a campaign for more Government funding.

Report by **Henry James**

Although based on the Wirral, Claire House cares for more than 300 seriously and terminally ill children from all over the North West, including West Lancashire.

The borough's MP met with hospice chief David Pastor to learn about its work and offer her backing for its 'Every Dying Child' campaign.

Claire House opened in 1998 caring for just 10 children. It now looks after more than 330 and over the past five years has seen an 84% increase in the number of children supported and a 132% in bereavement support.

Last year they received an unbelievable 143 referrals. The majority of the children they care for now come from north of the river Mersey, including five children and families from West Lancashire.

Sadly, for every child they reach, there is one they cannot, mainly due to lack of funding prompting the launch of an appeal to build a second hospice in Liverpool and increase the services they provide across Merseyside and West Lancashire.

Rosie Cooper said: "The work Claire House do to support children and families across the North West, including West Lancashire, is vital to ensure they are not left in isolation to deal with the trauma of caring for a seriously or terminally ill child.

"Despite difficult circumstances, the charity helps these children to live life to the full regardless of how short their life might be.

"I have written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Health Secretary calling for more funding for children's palliative care and I support the hospice's 'Every Dying Child' campaign to help raise funds to enable the service to reach as many children as possible."

David Pastor said: "We are currently only reaching half of children who are in need of palliative care and need to see a rise in Government funding from £11m to £25m for the children's hospice grant.

"Having the support of Rosie Cooper and other MPs is important to get our message across to Government and the wider public through our 'every Dying Child' campaign.

"Our thanks go to Rosie for supporting our campaign and the children and families we support in West Lancashire and across the North West."

West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper is supporting Claire House Children's Hospice's campaign for more Government funding.

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Mike's booze-free month boost for Queenscourt

Mike Addy hands cheque to Rachel Kennedy from Queenscourt Hospice, with his work colleagues looking on.

A FOOTBALL fan who likes to relax with a few drinks while watching his favourite team raised hundreds of pound for Queenscourt Hospice by giving up the booze for a month.

Mike Addy, who works at the DS Smith packaging company in Burscough, was sponsored by family, friends and colleagues and raised £841 for the hospice which provides support for the people of West Lancs, Southport and Formby and relies on charitable donations for 75% of its funding

And the lifelong Everton FC fan, who went along to Queenscourt with work colleagues to present the cheque to Rachel Kennedy from the hospice, explained why the fundraiser had been somoething of a challenge.

He joked: "It's hard enough to watch Everton for a month when you have a few drinks, never mind completely sober!"

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Double festive charity appeal

David's bidding to help homeless and special school targeted by vandals

Report by **Kenny Parker**

A CHARITY fundraiser from Ormskirk has teamed up with a local bar to organise a Christmas gift appeal for the homeless and stage a benefit event for a special needs school targeted by vandals.

David Jonker, who leads an open mic night at the Mad Hatter bar, is asking big-hearted West Lancs residents to drop off shoeboxes containing festive treats, at the bar in Church Street, Ormskirk by Sunday, December 9.

These will then be passed on to the Whitechapel Centre in Liverpool, which supports homeless people, or distributed individually to the homeless on the streets of Manchester.

And the bar will also be holding a fundraising night on Sunday, December 2 - featuring live music, food and a raffle - in aid of the Millstead Primary School in Everton, which caters for children with severe learning difficulties.

The school was recently vandalised with the damage to its playground and play equipment, trampolines and three buses running into thousands of pounds.

David held a similar shoebox appeal for the homeless last year and previously raised nearly £5,500 for victims of the 2015 Nepal earthquake, in part by busking on the streets of Ormskirk.

He said: "I wanted to help the school after reading about what happened to them online. I've worked at schools for autistic children in the past so I know how difficult it can be on a day-to-day basis.It's devastating for them to have this catastrophic incident to deal with and for the children to have these nice things taken from them all because some selfish idiots wanted 30 minutes of 'kicks'.

David busking in Ormskirk to raise money for the victims of the Nepal Earthquake in 2015.

"I also think it's important to help people if you are fortunate enough to be in a position to and Christmas should be a time for people to reach out to each other, especially those less fortunate like the homeless, for whom Christmas must be an exceptionally difficult period."

Suggestions for items to fill shoeboxes include, hats, gloves, toiletries, socks, underwear, sanitary products and flannels for adults; and toys, selection boxes, baby wipes, baby grows, colouring books, stationery, hair bobbles and toiletries for children.

Toys wanted for children's hospice

WEST Lancashire-based MLS Independent Funeral Directors are collecting Christmas gifts on behalf of Claire House Children's Hospice.

Anyone who has an extra new toy this year which they would like to donate to youngsters at the hospice can drop them off at either of the company's funeral homes at 20 Moss Delph Lane, Aughton or 22a Liverpool Road North, Burscough.

For more information contact MLS Independent Funeral Directors on 01695 424888 or 01704 891555.

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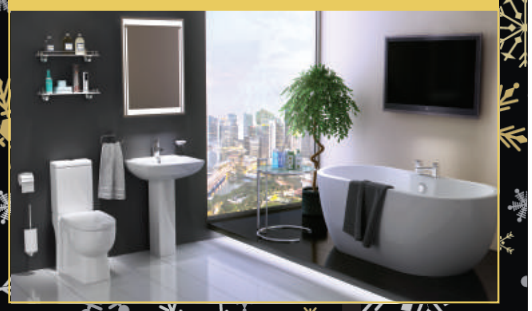

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Dr Marius McGovern, clinical director at Liverpool Implant and Aesthetic Dental Spa

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Health commissioners extend borough's 'unique' prescription order service

Report by **Henry James**

MORE patients in the borough will now be able to take advantage of the NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group's Prescription Ordering Direct Service (POD) following the establishment of a second base in Burscough.

Originally launched as a pilot in Skelmersdale in 2017, the POD, is a prescribing hub based within GP practices, with skilled healthcare professionals, who are qualified to deal with prescriptions and offer medications advice.

The new base, operating from Burscough Health Centre in Stanley Court, Lord Street, will complement the existing service at Skelmersdale Family Practice in Sandy Lane and cover 16 of the 18 practices in West Lancashire.

The aim of the Prescription Ordering Direct Service is to ensure that patients have the safest, most efficient way of ordering prescriptions. Wasted medicines cost the NHS in West Lancashire an estimated £600,000 per year.

By introducing the PODs, the CCG is supporting patients on a repeat prescription in the ordering and management of their prescriptions, while simultaneously freeing up and reducing pressure on GPs.

CCG chief, Mike Maguire: "Nowhere else in the country covers 90 per cent of their local population through their prescribing hubs."

The new POD is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 5pm while the Skelmersdale base in open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

Mike Maguire, chief officer at NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "Nowhere else in the country covers 90 per cent of their local population through their prescribing hubs.

"We are proud to say that 16 of our practices in West Lancashire are now utilising the prescribing hubs. By adding this service, we not only can continue to address the issue of medicines waste, by ensuring that patients only order what they need, but also free up GPs so that they are able to see more patients, sooner.

Range

Dawn Threlfall, medicines optimisation project support manager, at the CCG, added: "Although other areas of the country also offer prescribing hubs, in West Lancashire our hubs are unique as they provide a greater range of services to our patients. Our PODs are a one-stop shop for anything medicine-related for our patients.

"In addition to providing prescriptions, they also provide medicines reviews, picking up patient orders from GP surgeries and helping to deal with all correspondence and discharges from hospital.

"Our service in West Lancashire is 100 per cent unique."

For more information on the PODs and medicines waste visit the CCG's website at bit.ly/CCGMedsTeam.

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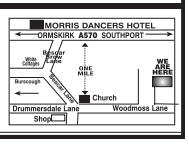

Rotary club chief raises £2,500 to help raise prostate cancer awareness

PRESIDENT of the Rotary Club of Ormskirk, John McCormick has presented a cheque for £2,500 to a charity that is close to his heart.

John, who is also a director of Myersons Chartered Accountants, raised the money for Prostate Cancer UK, through sponsorship after completing the West Lancashire Summer Triathlon.

The 67-year-old, who has been treated for prostate cancer himself, undertook the gruelling event - comprising a 400 metre swim, 18.5km cycle and 5k run - after being inspired by a friend's son who competes in Iron Man events.

He was especially keen to help the charity, which aims to raise, awareness and improve diagnosis, treatment and prevention of the disease, as a result of his own experiences.

"Despite never having had any symptoms suggesting a prostate problem, I asked for a blood test when I went to the Well-Man clinic and after a series of further blood tests and biopsies, I was diagnosed as having prostate cancer.

"I then had surgery to remove my prostate and now, having been thoroughly tested, I am free of cancer. "I now want to promote prostate cancer awareness and, in particular, encourage men to get tested for it."

John Taylor from Prostate Cancer UK went along to O'Briens Tea Room in Ormskirk to receive the cheque and give a short talk about the charity.

John Taylor (right) of Prostate Cancer UK receives a £2,500 cheque from Ormskirk Rotary Club president John McCormick.

Care trust teams up with counselling charity to support gambling addicts

Report by **Henry James**

LANCASHIRE Care NHS Foundation Trust has joined forces with a counselling charity to provide support to people who are addicted to or harmed by gambling.

It follows latest data from the Gambling Commission showing an estimated 60,000 problem gamblers in the North West and some 200,000 feared at risk of addiction.

While many people gamble safely and for fun, it can become a problem when there is an urge to continue despite harmful negative consequences or a desire to stop.

Problem gambling can harm people's health and relationships, leave them in serious debt and may also be linked to suicide and other negative impacts on families.

Now Lancashire Care has teamed up with Liverpool-based Beacon Counselling Trust to deliver additional support to people who suffer as a result of problem gambling. The arrangement is one of the first of it's kind in the UK.

Hidden

Beacon Counselling Trust (BCT) is the main provider of GamCare treatment for those affected by problem gambling in the North West of England.

Practitioners in the care trust's Mindsmatter Service and young people's services have been upskilled by BCT staff to identify and signpost people in a timely manner into the GamCare Treatment Network or to be supported as part of the GamCare Youth Outreach Programme.

Sue Moore, director of strategic development at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, said: "Problem gambling has been called the hidden addiction, because it hasn't been given the same prominence as other addictions such as alcohol or drug addiction. The physical effects are very difficult to see but the impact on individuals and their families can be life-changing."

And Neil Platt from Beacon Counselling Trust added: "We are delighted to extend our services across Lancashire and to be able to work closely with Lancashire Care as part of an integrated service to tackle the issues caused by harmful gambling. This service will significantly increase the opportunity for those in Lancashire affected by this issue to access services on a local and immediate basis."

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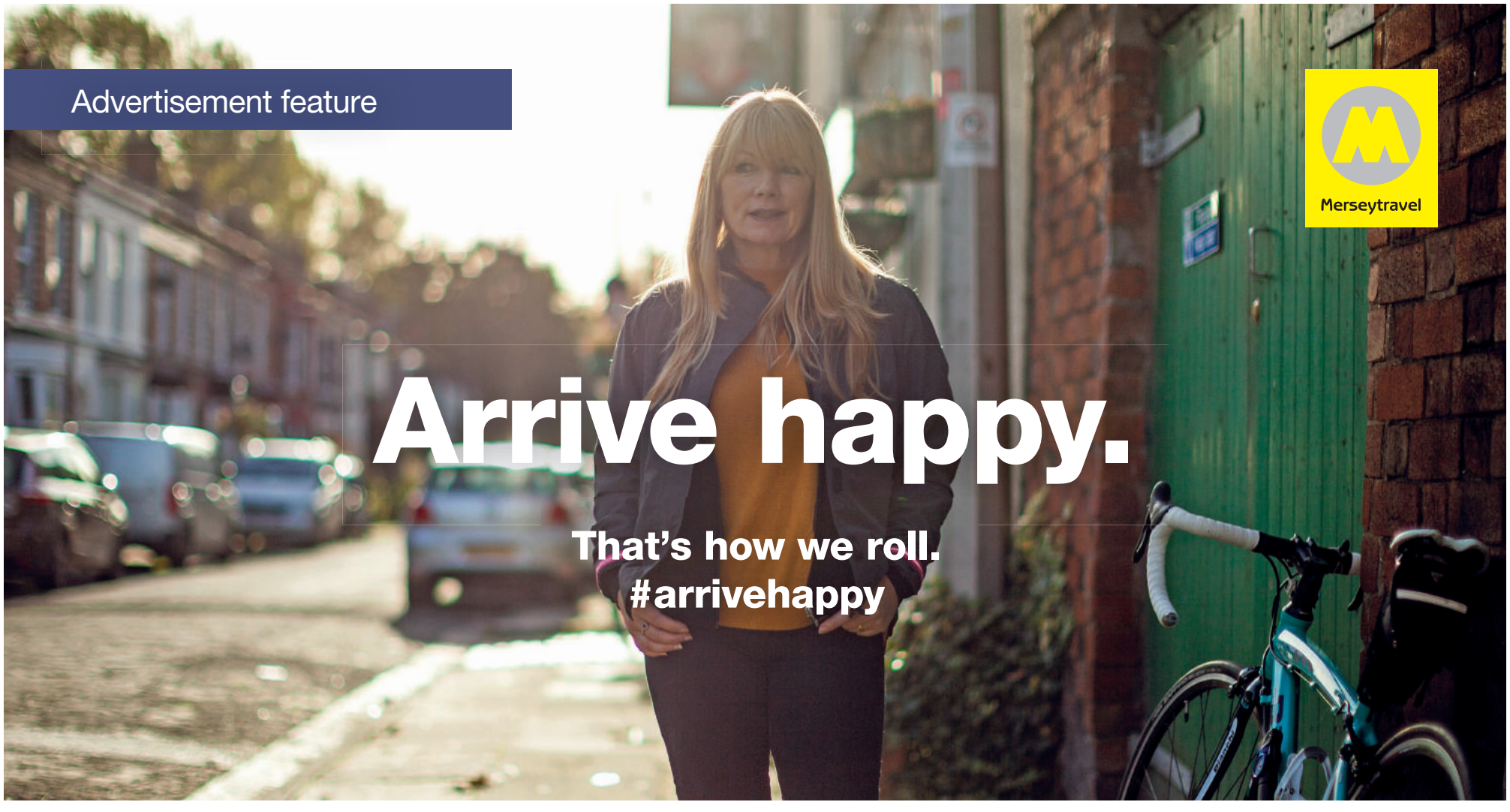

Are you looking to get a little bit healthier in your daily routine, and in doing so get a little happier too?

People right across Liverpool City Region have been making small changes in their daily commute to become healthier and happier as part of Merseytravel's Arrive Happy campaign, which encourages people to get just a little bit more active as they go to and from work.

It could be cycling one or two days a week. It could be simply getting off the bus a stop or two earlier. Or it could be choosing a day to walk home from work with a friend and have a catch up. Even with the winter nights closing in walking and cycling as part of the daily commute can save money, time and hassle. All you need to do is wrap up warm and get out there.

NHS guidelines recommend that adults aged 19-64 should aim to be active for 150 minutes a week, which may sound like a lot, but can be achieved by making short local journeys on foot or by bike – perhaps cycling to the station instead of taking the car. Break it down and that's 30 minutes a day. Or 15 minutes each way on the commute. Not much time at all.

It's that simple and the benefits can include increased mental wellbeing, a reduced risk of heart disease, lower cholesterol, and even reduce the risk of long-term conditions such as type 2 diabetes. In addition, studies have shown that people who cycle or walk to work are more satisfied with their commute, less likely to have days off sick and feel less stressed.

'Why not start small and see how far you can go?'

'Once you start walking the time goes so quickly.'

Cynthia Bosafola, Business Advisor at The Women's Organisation

Why do you walk?

I don't have a car. A bus does stop outside our building but I find it easier to walk, it's a nice way to start the morning. Since I've walked to work I find I walk to other places too – a half hour walk doesn't seem like anything now.

Walking helps me think about things properly, if you are feeling a bit negative for whatever reason I think you can walk it off rather than just going over the problem.

What would you say to anyone who's thinking of commuting on foot to encourage them to get started?

Walking is really therapeutic. Once you start walking the time goes so quickly, somehow the same time feels longer if you are just waiting around or sitting down. You have chance to think about the day ahead or the day you've had, and it's not as time consuming as you think.

When is your favourite time of year to walk and why?

I like spring, but autumn is my favourite season. I love to see everything changing and all the colours of the leaves.

What are the best bits of your journey?

It's nice to see the hustle and bustle – kids going to school, people going to work. I like to see life happening – it wakes me up!

Get tips and advice on walking and cycling in the run up to Christmas

www.arrivehappy.org
facebook/ArriveHappy2018

Volunteers hold seventh free Christmas Day lunch for area's lonely over-50s

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

VOLUNTEERS behind an annual festive meal campaign are once again inviting lonely over-50s from the Southport and West Lancs areas to join them for a free Christmas Day lunch.

This year's event - the seventh 'Cherish Christmas' meal organised by husband and wife David and Pam Nickson - will be held at the Open Well Life Centre on West Park , Albert Road, Southport from 1 to 5pm on Tuesday, December 25.

They are appealing for people who would like to attend or know somebody who does, to get in touch before Friday, December 7.

A £5 deposit is needed to secure the meal but this will be refunded after the event. Transport can also be provided if needed for those living within a 10-mile radius.

Volunteers and guests at last year's Cherish meal.

Gifts

The couple are seeking any local businesses who can donate financially to the cause or who can give them good-quality gifts to hand out on the day, to get in touch.

Pam said: "We are once again having a meal on Christmas Day mainly for the elderly or anyone over 50 who would be on their own. We are aware that although this is a wonderful time of the year for most people, for many others it is a very sad and difficult time and people can become very lonely and isolated.

"This is the seventh year we have done this and again our aim is to let people know they don't have to be on their own on Christmas Day.

"We are aware there are various organisations and places that cater for the homeless on Christmas Day but our aim is to mainly reach the older generation.

"We will have a three-course lunch, music, bingo, gifts and magic show from a local magician, but most of all the important thing is spending time with each other.

"There is no charge for this but we do ask for a £5 deposit to secure booking. This will be refunded in full before guests leave on Christmas Day.

"And it doesn't just end on Christmas Day. We have formed a group called Cherish and we meet up every couple of months for a meal and to spend time together, as well as encouraging friendships to develop."

To attend or to donate, call Dave on 07825 768 184 or Pam on 07703 563 132.

Children from Town Green Primary School with some of the items they sold for the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal.

Primary pupils' sale raises £700-plus for Poppy Appeal

PUPILS at a West Lancs primary school raised more than £700 for this year's Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

The youngsters at Aughton Town Green Primary sold a range of items in the lead-up to Remembrance Sunday, including rulers, wristbands, poppy pins, key rings and rubbers, as the traditional paper poppies.

Their final total for the charity was an impressive £721.57.

Headteacher, Nick Huxley, said: "The children were thrilled to raise so much money for such a worthwhile charity as the Royal British Legion. They were also able to learn even more about the sacrifices made by the very brave men and women who have given so much for us all."

Parish church to host festive music evening

'THE Spirit of Christmas', an evening of Festive Music and Song by The Occasional Singers, is being held at Ormskirk Parish Church on Friday, November 30 starting at 7.30pm.

Tickets for the event, described as a 'Feast of Seasonal Music for everyone', cost £7.50, which includes refreshments.

For more details contact Mary on 01695 575432 or just go along on the night.

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Local Plan 'explanation' leaflet should have been labelled Fake News

I WONDER if your readers have received a copy of the glossy four-page leaflet entitled 'West Lancashire New Local Plan - Explained by Labour to dispel some of the myths and misinformation around the proposed preferred options in the New Local Plan'?

Maybe this has just been distributed in Bickerstaffe and surrounding areas where there is a great deal of opposition to the proposals - which was clearly underestimated.

Indeed, the leaflet seems a desperate and feeble attempt by the planners/Labour to try to 'sell' their Preferred Options to us, in much the same way as selling Christmas to turkeys!

The leaflet (much of it fiction) along with scaremongering statistics, is both patronising and ridiculous. Their 'visions' for garden villages and tens of thousands of new residents can best be described as 'Utopia'. Not a mention of loss of Grade 1 agricultural land, loss of Green Belt, tenant farmers losing their homes and livelihood, the compulsory purchase of existing residents homes, loss of wildlife/breeding habitats etc. etc.

The back page to the brochure, 'Why Bickerstaffe' was quite surreal. As were the pictures - a butterfly, honey bee on a flower, a farmhouse and a tree in a field. How lovely. Then I realised the pictures show what we have already in Bickerstaffe but what we stand to lose, i.e. the farmhouse would be compulsory purchased and demolished, the trees felled and the green fields lost under thousands of houses and a technology park! (talk about rubbing salt in the wound!).

The mention of 'bringing the countryside into the Garden Villages' I found mildly amusing, but surely it should be the other way round? They did touch on brownfield sites being 'considered' but no explanation as to why these were discounted.

By the time I had read their aspirations for 'imaginatively designed homes, creating walkable, vibrant, healthy and sociable communities' and thousands of residents cycling and walking in complete harmony I had glazed over and all I really wanted to see in their leaflet was a picture of Donald Trump holding a placard reading 'Fake News'!

Well done Labour and planners - the only thing your brochure achieved was to convince us not to vote Labour!

Bickerstaffe Pensioner, by email.

'Misguided' and 'unrealistic' scheme should be rejected

I RECENTLY attended a consultation meeting addressed by housing portfolio holder Councillor John Hodson relating to the new Local Plan for the building of around 16000 houses.

He began with a brief and plausible outline of the plan. However, in the following question-and-answer session, doubts began to surface.

No other department had contributed to the plan, so no consideration had been given to the impact on roads, nor to the provision of medical and educational services for thousands of new residents. A suggestion that co-ordinated departmental planning was surely essential was met with the less-than-satisfactory response that 'We don't do that here'!

Doubts turned to disbelief when it became clear that 30% of the projected build was to provide housing for Liverpool and Sefton, a request that those authorities had not made.

Incredulity then greeted Councillor Hodson's claim that 'affordable' housing in Aughton would be available at £64,000 per unit.

The above is just a taste of the unsatisfactory explanations offered to justify a plan rooted in misguided aspiration and unreality. As such, it should be rejected.

Michael Redmond, Aughton.

This 'consultation' is just a tick-box exercise

RE: The Local Plan, it's difficult not to recall the line from Shakespeare's Hamlet 'something is rotten in the state of Denmark.'

West Lancs Borough Council is halfway through what is being seen by members of the public as a mere tick-box exercise labelled 'consultation' wherein they're invited to comment on the 228-page Local Plan Review - Preferred Options covering the next 30 years.

In addition, Councillor John Hodson, portfolio holder for planning and development, has met with many parish councils and stated that the need to build so many houses in the western and northern parishes is due to demands made by Sefton and others within the Liverpool City Region.

He also states in direct opposition to the borough council's recent press release that it has nothing to do with increasing the borough council's income.

Sefton's own Local Plan makes clear the fact it has enough land to satisfy demand without looking elsewhere; and to deny increased income as a motivator is puerile.

Moreover, when questioned about the manifest lack of suitable infrastructure, schools, surgeries, roads, drainage etc. he has no cogent answers.

It cannot be denied that more housing of all types is necessary. But why have the proponents of this plan ignored the potential to build on eminently suitable smaller sites, of which there are many, thus giving work and employment to small building companies within the region?

Perhaps Councillor Hodson will explain to his council colleagues and to the public at large why elected borough councillors are denied access to the minutes of the Local Plan Working Group, the authors of the document under consideration.

In this day and age, most would agree transparency is to be recommended.

Patrick Bell, by email, details supplied.

Make your views known!

HAVING attended the presentation at which the parish council/Lilford Estates presented their vision of the future for Tarleton, with an additional 15,000 or so new houses, earlier this summer, I was relieved to see the official West Lancashire Borough Council draft 30-year plan proposed a far smaller number.

In addition to the Altys site already under construction, this plan showed only two additional sites. The first was a fairly large site between the A565 and Blackgate Lane, with access directly onto the main road - no major problem.

However, the second site comprised the whole of the area behind St Mark's Square, currently used as a car park. On any day of the week, one can count scores of cars on that car park. I can imagine the congestion in the village if they all have to find somewhere else to park.

Can I encourage as many people as possible to let the planning department know their views before the deadline on December 13 - details via westlancs.gov.uk, search Local Plan Review.

Concerned, Tarleton, details supplied.

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tel 01704 392 400 email editor@champnews.com

Don't be fooled by all the scare stories and false views

I WAS very surprised to see an OWL party political story in the Champion (November 14).

It is well known that ex-Tory, Councillor Adrian Owens' main objective is to undermine the good work that the Labour party is doing for the borough.

The Tories and OWL (Tory splinter group) are putting out scare stories and false views about the new Local Plan.

As a newly-elected councillor at my first council meeting in October, I was dismayed to hear the disdain in which the Tories hold the people of Skelmersdale. They also made it clear that they didn't want an invasion of 'undesirables' from Liverpool.

Many residents of Aughton have come from working-class backgrounds from Liverpool. We need affordable housing in the borough and planned developments, not a free-for-all and massive 'executive homes' that only benefit the developers' bank balances.

So, the new Local Plan shows that our Labour-controlled council can be ambitious for our borough and is safeguarding the Green Belt. Tories are talking about using up our agricultural land. But, the new plan will only see a reduction of Green Belt by a mere 1.7% and that is over 30 years.

This new plan also takes advantage of economic growth in neighbouring regions and allows West Lancashire to be part of those new business opportunities.

Please, read the plan documents and don't be fooled by the scare stories.

Cllr Ron Cooper, Tanhouse

Penalty fares on Northern Rail? They must be joking!

I WAS astonished to read in the Champion (November 14) that Northern Rail plans to introduce penalty fares on the Preston-Ormskirk line.

I would suggest that the reason people are so hesitant to buy a ticket is that they have no idea if a train will arrive!

Start providing a useable service and then we can talk about penalty fines.

Dr Charles Knight, Burscough.

Setting the record straight on diabetic eye screening

I REFER to your article on November 7, 'Diabetic eye screening programme moved', which appeared in the Ormskirk and Skelmersdale editions of the Champion.

You quote a reader asking: "Do we have to blame Virgin Care for messing everything up again?"

The answer is, 'No'.

Virgin Care provides diabetes nursing services at the Ormskirk Hospital campus but Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation provides the diabetes eye screening programme.

The Virgin Care diabetes team moved out of their former location at the Diabetes Centre at the request of the NHS commissioners who own the building.

In August, the service relocated to Bickerstaffe House, also on the hospital campus, where Virgin Care's West Lancashire Adult Community Services is based.

In fact, Virgin Care has offered the diabetes eye screening service a dedicated, newly-constructed, state-of-the-art consulting space at Bickerstaffe House so that the two services can be located together.

Michelle Lee, managing director, West Lancashire Adult Community and Urgent Care Services.

PICTURE of the week

Ormskirk's Clock Tower was festooned in a web of festive colour when the town's Christmas Lights were switched on last Sunday. Picture by Martyn Snape.

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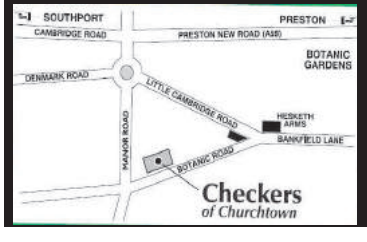

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Chippy chain shortlisted for national training award

BOSSES at a fish and chip business which has a branch in Burscough are aiming to scoop a national award.

The Fylde Fish Bar chain has been named as finalists in the Staff Training and Development category of the 2019 National Fish & Chip Awards, organised by Seafish, the national body for the UK seafood industry. .

To reach this stage companies were assessed against a wide variety of judging criteria, including internal training policies and assessments, training support and forward plans for staff development.

In the coming weeks, judges will visit the businesses in contention unannounced to undertake full reviews of staff training and development practices - as well as evaluate the quality of the fish and chips and the level of customer service.

The winners will be announced at a ceremony in London on January 24.

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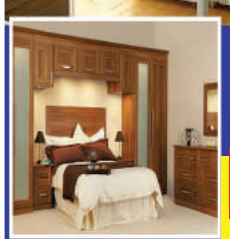

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Council says its prioritising policy is 'making a difference' to county's highways network

LANCASHIRE County Council's approach to highway repairs is making a difference, according to new figures in its Transport Asset Management Plan Refresh 2015/2030.

The authority has been prioritising investment in the A, B and C road network across the county, based on highway condition, to prevent deterioration. This has targeted work where the council believes it will deliver the biggest benefit and ensure the roads last as long as possible.

And council chiefs say prioritising work on the basis of need, rather than on a district basis, has helped to standardise the condition of the highways network across the county.

The Transport Asset Management Plan 2015-2030 (TAMP) was originally approved in 2014. It identifies the key highway priorities for the county council up to 2029/30.

According to the latest figures there were 6,000 fewer safety-critical defects on rural unclassified roads, between 2014 and 2017, a reduction of 46%.

There have been approximately 2,000 (7.5%) fewer safety-critical defects on the residential road network between 2014/15 and 2016/17.

Lancashire also has 8,500km of footways and there were approximately 13,120 (64%) fewer safety-critical defects on those in 2017-18, compared to 2014-15.

County Councillor Keith Iddon.

County Councillor Keith Iddon, Lancashire's cabinet member for highways and transport, said: "Over the past 12 months we've made good progress on improving the condition of the road network, which is now in better condition than it was in 2014 when we started our TAMP.

"This report provides us with an opportunity to review the condition of our highway network and our performance over the past 12 months, which helps us to plan ahead to target our resources in the best possible way."

The report adds that due to the focus in the TAMP on A, B and C roads, there has been some deterioration in the condition of bridges, traffic signals and street lights over the past 12 months, but the council says that overall the condition of highway assets is still regarded as acceptable.

The strategy has involved investing in preventative maintenance, based on carrying out the most appropriate surface treatment at the right time, rather than waiting until more-costly full resurfacing is needed.

The county council assesses its performance against criteria set by Department for Transport (DfT).

Based on its performance, the DfT awarded the council 100% of its 2018/19 Incentive Fund allocation, approximately £3.86m. This funding was used to support highway maintenance work, fix additional potholes, assess the safety of street lighting columns, and carry out inspections of bridges, which will inform a risk-based programme of work and further inspection in 2019/20.

Take your partners for charity dance date

THE St George's United Reformed Church Hall Sequence Dance Group is holding a fundraising dance at Burscough British Legion, Lord Street, on Sunday, December 16 in aid of North West Cancer Research.

Starting at 8pm, the event will feature modern and easy sequence dances and all are welcome to attend. Admission is £6, which includes light refreshments.

Meanwhile the group is open to new members. Meetings are held every Saturday from 8pm at St George's United Reformed Church Hall, Northway, Maghull. For more information call Ray or Joan Park on 01704 892346.

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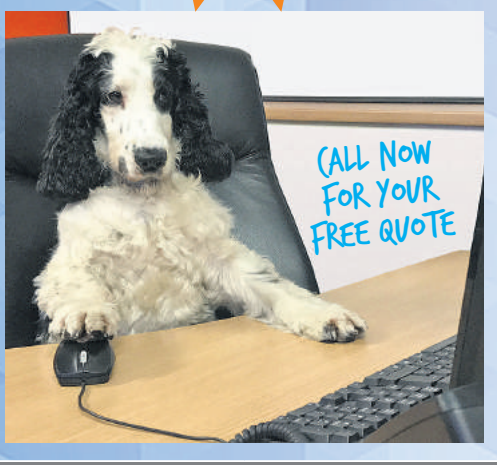

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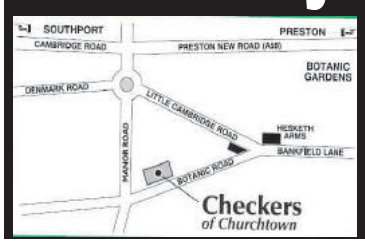

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Shopping for one can be a frustrating and costly exercise

I SOMETIMES wonder whether I actually enjoy shopping.

On occasions I'm sure that I do - like last week when I bought, quite cheaply, exactly the pullover that I wanted in a charity shop in Ormskirk and on the same day found an 'in-date' small-boned pork shoulder joint in a nearby supermarket.

Believe it or not, these two small triumphs really made my day. I walked with a lighter step back to the bus station, with a smile on my face.

I had, for really not very much money, exactly the two things I wanted. And I had the sense to get on with getting home, resisting the temptation to do more shopping while hopefully my luck was in.

Because shopping - particularly for food - for one person can be a frustrating business. The supermarkets are crammed with 'bogof' offers or buy one get another half-price. But I really don't need two chickens, or two packs of four yoghurts - or in general two of anything I came out to buy.

And it's no use saying I can freeze this, that or another. Unless I really want, which I don't, to eat the same thing day after day, the only real choice is to buy one of whatever at full price.

I can see why the supermarkets do what they do - but it doesn't make me feel any better and I suppose I'll have to put up with it.

But surely I, as a person living on my own (well yes, with two canine chums - but oddly they don't share their food with me) is not all that strange. There must be heaps of fellow older people in my position, and plenty of singleton younger folk. Why, I ask, cannot the supermarkets think just occasionally about us in particular?

Why can't there be more small cuts of meat, enough perhaps for two meals? Why can't vegetables generally be sold loose at sensible prices.

Some do sell some veg loose. But in the three different supermarkets that I regularly use, just try buying, for instance, four or five carrots. You can certainly do this, but the produce always appears to be whatever was left over after the best had been packaged in plastic and great numbers, usually of enormous size so you end up with half carrots over.

And, worst of all, they are usually priced HIGHER than their superior, packaged brethren. WHY?

Actually, of the three supermarkets I usually patronise, only one has so far ditched those irritating plastic bags you cannot extract from their holders or open once you have, for good, old-fashioned paper bags which are environmentally friendly. Again, WHY?

In the same vein, why is it that so many supermarkets either don't have, or leave unstaffed, limited purchase checkouts? And even when they do, they rarely if ever police them. There is nothing more annoying than ending up at a 'seven items or less' so-called 'express' checkout only to find the person ahead of you off-loading a Range Rover's capacity of shopping which is then ignored by the person at the till while the culprit spends ages packing their shopping into multiple bags.

I am already trying to plan Christmas dinner for Tina, Cinders and myself, but I know it is going to lead to waste in one form or another (or probably both). Wouldn't it be nice if a supermarket would try catering to us grumpy old(er) men and women by putting together for, say, just the week before Christmas, a package of traditional Christmas fayre for one, without adding an horrendous mark-up?

I reckon in this season of goodwill, that they could do that. Particularly in view of the money we spend week in and week out buying more of all sorts of things than we need, with the choice of either wasting good food or getting fat!

Smokers encouraged to seek support to pack it in from the Quit Squad

STAFF at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust's Quit Squad are urging smokers in the county to get the help they need to quit and avoid contracting Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

Around 1.2m people in the UK are living with diagnosed COPD, a group of lung conditions that make it difficult to empty air out of the lungs because the airways have been narrowed and often developed when the lungs are exposed to cigarette smoke. Living with COPD can make it hard to do even simple, everyday tasks.

Gareth Beck from the Quit Squad said: "COPD mainly affects middle-aged or older adults who smoke but the likelihood of developing the disease increases the more you smoke and the longer you've smoked.

"We are encouraging smokers to contact the service for free specialist advice. You are up to four times more likely to quit with the help of stop smoking aids combined with specialist help and support than without."

The Quit Squad is funded by Lancashire County Council. You can access the service by visiting a drop-in clinic - no appointments are required - or by attending a one-to-one session. It also offers sessions in the community and workplace. For further details, telephone 0800 3286297 or visit www.quitsquad.nhs.uk.

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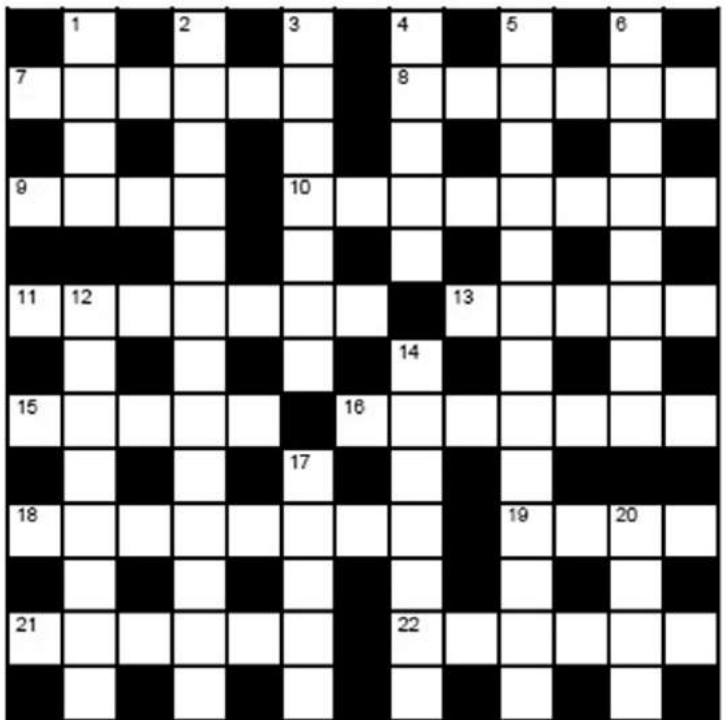

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7. Impressionism. 8. Instruct. 9. Prod. 10. Firearm. 12. Kyoto. 14. Issue. 16. Bag lady. 19. Blot. 20. Ordinary. 22. Animal Kingdom.

Down: 1. Amen. 2. Writhe. 3. Estuary. 4. Dirty. 5. Snappy. 6. Assorted. 11. Insolent. 13. Sandpit. 15. Ultimo. 17. Linage. 18 Joule. 21. Root.

ACROSS

7. Tropical plant formerly widely cultivated as a source of a dark blue dye (6)
8. Angry or sullen look, scowl (6)
9. Warmth (4)
10. Provided (someone) with so much help or information that they don't need to think for themselves (8)
11. Relating to the mind (7)
13. Round, flat hat made of soft material (5)
15. Plum, preserved by drying, having a black, wrinkled appearance (5)
16. To manipulate someone or to consider something in a casual manner (3, 4)
18. Insignificant people or things; undersized fish (5, 3)
19. Object of worship (4)
21. Abbreviated term for a person who doesn't eat meat (6)
22. Strongly encourage or urge (someone) to do something (6)

DOWN

1. Stake put up by a player in poker or brag before the deal (4)
2. The exploitation of biological processes for industrial and other purposes (13)
3. Pirate, buccaneer (7)
4. Dome-shaped Inuit dwelling typically built from blocks of solid snow (5)
5. An equivalent force (13)
6. Showing or feeling great respect (8)
12. Powered grass-cutting tool with a nylon cutting cord which rotates rapidly on a spindle (8)
14. The Pope's diocese (4, 3)
17. Proposal (5)
20. Man-eating giant in folklore; monster (4)

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Mobility centre boss grateful for support

THE director of the Ormskirk Mobility Centre has thanked the public of West Lancs and the borough council for their support since its opening in September.

The centre is situated at Two Saints Place on the site of the former Brighter Future Mobility Shop which closed earlier this year.

Allan Baker, company director at Ormskirk Mobility Centre, managed the Brighter Future shop and also worked as a technician for them in Skelmersdale.

He said: "I want to thank the public and the local authority for their support. We aim to be more than a mobility shop and offer help and advice."

Allan is supported by a team of advisers who are registered disabled and the centre sells items ranging from cutlery to scooters and power chairs!

Students flying the flag for environment

MEMBERS of two Students' Unions groups at Edge Hill University are the bee's knees and they've got an award to prove it!

Outdoor conservation group, The Sanctuary and The Bee Society at the Ormskirk campus have been jointly recognised with a national Bees Needs Award by the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and Green Flag, for their efforts in promoting ethical bee keeping and pollination practices in the local region.

They received the award at a prestigious ceremony at Kew Gardens in London attended by nationally renowned conservationists and MPs

Headed up by Edge Hill Students' Union's vice-president of activities, Dan Bocharnikov, The Sanctuary is a new outdoor space, aimed at promoting sustainability on campus. Students can attend weekly sessions, allowing them to connect with nature, and to build a greener campus by learning about practices related to conservation.

Connected to The Sanctuary, The Bee Society is one of a few local projects promoting ethical beekeeping, centred around maintaining the health of the colony, and to prevent the national decline in numbers of bees. The bee hives in The Sanctuary give students the opportunity to learn skills relating to beekeeping which promotes the Student Union's wider drive for sustainability and green practices on campus.

President of the Bee Society, Amy Turner, said: "This is an amazing achievement. We think the bees are a wonderful contribution to the society, Students' Union, and the university. Hopefully, it will be the first of many projects to come with further student support!"

Dan Bocharnikov and Amy Turner receiving the Bees Needs award at Kew Gardens.

Dan Bocharnikov, added: "It's been brilliant working with students with an extraordinary enthusiasm for environmental sustainability! The Sanctuary and Project Bee has the potential to bring students, staff, and the community together and I cannot wait to see this partnership bloom."

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MP enjoys guided tour of primary school

ROSIE Cooper enjoyed a guided tour of a primary school which has undertaken a series of 'new inititaves and improvements' over the past year.

Headteacher Philip Bates invited the West Lancs MP to St Anne's Catholic Primary in Aughton Street, Ormskirk where she met some of the children now taking an active part in the school's business.

The school has also joined the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy, set up to raise awareness of indigenous forests and to help save them for future generations.

Enthusiasm

As part of the initiative Ms Cooper is visiting schools and delivering saplings for children to plant in their school grounds. The St Anne's pupils chose a hazel tree.

During her visit Ms Cooper was shown some of the new classrooms that have been built, and the conversion of the old staff room into a multi-purpose library and IT suite, fully equipped with 34 laptops and 4k smartboard.

Rosie Cooper with headteacher Philip Bates and pupils from St Anne's Catholic Primary School.

Rosie Cooper said: "It was a pleasure to meet the wonderful children at St Anne's who showed such enthusiasm in school matters and were proud to give me a tour of their buildings."

Headteacher Mr Bates commented: " Rosie was very encouraging and understanding of the work we are doing here and the progress being made, and we look forward to continuing this journey."

More sweet success for chocolate makers

A HUSBAND and wife team who set up as independent chocolate makers after suffering redundancy were chosen to represent Lancashire at an event to promote the county in the House of Commons.

Mawdesley-based Choc Amor was launched in 2012 by Paul and Jacqui Williams. Since then, the company has won multiple national and international accolades and was invited to join a Taste Lancashire event at the House of Commons on Lancashire Day, (Tuesday, November 27) when MPs and VIPs had the opportunity to meet various food and drink producers from the county and to sample some of the county's award-winning produce.

County council awarded £2.8m to support domestic abuse survivors

LANCASHIRE County Council has been named as one of seven projects across the North West to receive an allocation of £2.8m from the Government to support domestic abuse survivors as they rebuild their lives.

The money will provide new beds in refuges and other safe accommodation, access to education, and tailored employment and life skills guidance as survivors move towards building a safe and healthy future for themselves and their children, free from domestic abuse.

Projects will be delivered by North West councils working alongside local organisations to help ensure that no survivor of domestic abuse is turned away from the support they need to start their new life.

Housing Minister, Heather Wheeler said: "Those who have survived domestic abuse will have had their lives, and the lives of their families, shattered. It is our duty to ensure survivors can seek help by providing the support they need.

"Through providing specialist accommodation and access to employment, this fund will make sure North West councils and charities can provide a strong safety net for anyone facing the threat of abuse in their own home."

Sandra Horley, chief executive of Refuge, the national charity which supports victims of domestic abuse, added: "That Refuge services will be supported by this fund is hugely welcome news both for us and particularly for the thousands of women and children we support on a daily basis.

"Critically, this funding ensures that many of our refuges will remain open and continue to provide life-saving specialist support to those experiencing domestic abuse. A small number would have been forced to close had we not received these crucial funds."

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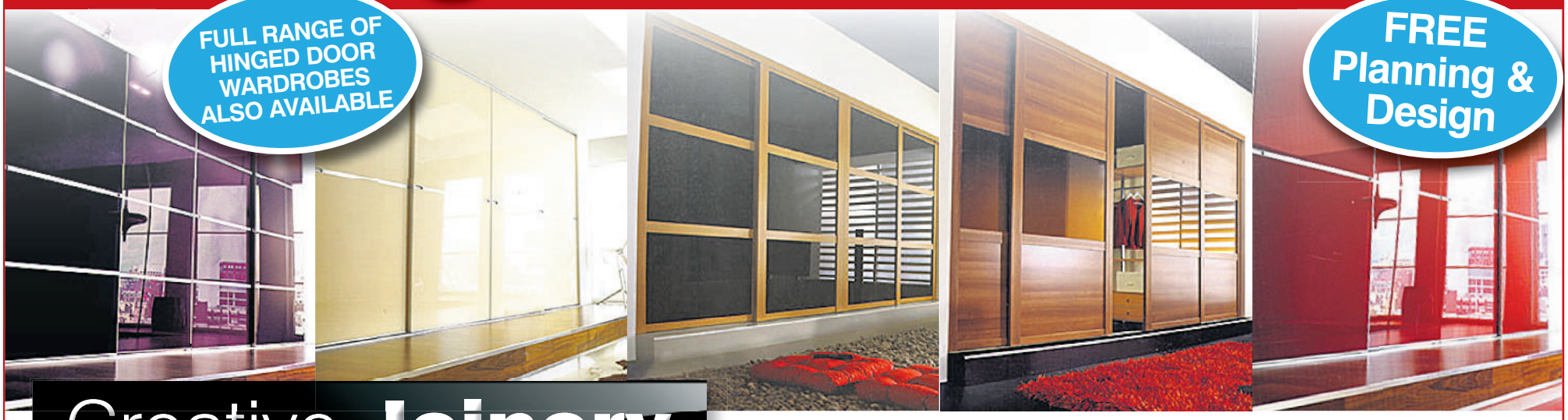

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Band drum up support for Scouts' fundraiser

LOCAL band Dark Angel provided entertainment at a fundraising evening in aid of the 44th Ormskirk (Tarleton) Scout Group.

The event, to raise funds for the renovation of the group's headquarters at Gorse Lane, Tarleton, was supported by donations by local businesses, while the band donated an electric guitar and amp and Tarleton Flooring and Furry Tales Dog Grooming also helped on the night.

Akela, Michelle Stephens, said: "We want to renovate our HQ including new toilets and a new front door."

Right: 44th Ormskirk (Tarleton) Scout group leaders and members of local band Dark Angel at the fundraiser.

Champ Calendar Girls competition winners

WINNERS of the Champion's competition to win a pair of tickets for Calendar Girls - The Musical at the Liverpool Empire, were Debbie Copeland from Ormskirk; Carolyn Jassi from Rufford; Fiona Colville from Southport; Maureen Terry from Waterloo and Margaret Siddell from Up Holland.

County's innovative care alarm scheme wins national award

Report by **Kenny Parker**

AN innovative social care alarm scheme which utilises new technology to support more than 9,000 residents in Lancashire has won a prestigious national award.

Telecare, which is provided by Lancashire County Council in partnership with Tunstall Healthcare and the Progress Housing Group, was a winner in the Public-Private Partnerships category of the LaingBuisson Awards which recognise excellent health and social care services across the country.

The scheme uses technology to help people to live independently in their home, whilst giving them, their families and carers peace of mind that help is at hand anytime of the day or night should they need it.

Wireless sensors are monitored by staff at a response centre 24-hours a day, seven days a week. These automatically activate an alarm call to the response centre if a problem is detected in the home.

Telecare works by using different kinds of sensors which are placed around people's homes or worn, and monitored remotely by a call centre.

Reminders

These provide alerts that a vulnerable person may need some urgent help. This may be because of an incident such as a fall, or a problem within the home, such as gas or water taps being left running causing risks of household fires or floods.

Telecare can also help older people with dementia to stay safe by providing alerts if doors are left open unexpectedly, or the heating hasn't been turned on in winter. And some sensors can provide medication reminders to people who may otherwise forget to take it at the right time.

The scheme is commissioned by the county council and run in partnership with Progress Lifeline and Tunstall.

County Councillor Graham Gooch, Lancashire's cabinet member for adult services, said: "Telecare is a fantastic service. It's a superb example of how we use the latest technology to help people who need social care support, such as elderly people and people with disabilities.

"Schemes like this are vital as they support residents to live independently and give vital reassurance to their families.

"Telecare is an important part of our plans to address the health and social care challenges we face ."

County Councillor Graham Gooch.

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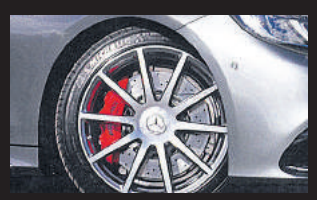

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WIN! tickets for the 'King of the Waltz' in Liverpool

The Champion is giving away three pairs to see Andre Rieu in concert

INTERNATIONAL Superstar André Rieu returns to Liverpool on December 14 with his 'King of the Waltz' show... and the Champion has three pairs of tickets to see him and his orchestra.

The career of Dutch violin maestro André Rieu spans more than 30 years.

His orchestral tours draw more than 600,000 people a year, meaning that the charismatic entertainer outsells superstars like Bruno Mars, AC/DC and Rihanna in the Billboard's Top 10.

He has sold a massive 40 million CDs and DVDs and notched 30 number 1 chart positions.

Charisma

André Rieu ends his annual world tour traditionally with a UK and Ireland arena tour that takes him into nine cities starting in December in Belfast and ending in Glasgow on December 22.

And to bring romance and magic to every fan during the run-up to the Christmas season the concerts will include wonderful Christmas carols, as well as waltzes, film scores, folk songs and favourites from the musicals

On stage André's incredible musical prowess, passion and charisma make for a magical spectacle. His shows regularly see people dancing in the aisles to his music and are a perfect mix of thrilling, romantic, festive and emotional melodies combined with surprises, balloons, beautiful soloists and of course André's great sense of humour.

"Spending the pre-Christmas season in the UK and Ireland with such fantastic fans makes me feel very grateful and pleased every year" says André Rieu.

"People write to me, telling me that it takes them two weeks to get back to normal after one of our concerts. It is simply fantastic to feel this energy and joy every evening."

André and his 60-piece Johann Strauss Orchestra (the largest private orchestra in the world) have received more than 500 Platinum Awards, three Classical Brit Awards for 'Album of the Year' and billions of YouTube views.

To be in with a chance of winning one of three pairs of tickets to see the Maestro from Maastricht in Liverpool on Friday, December 14, simply answer the following question and send your entry on a postcard to: Andre Rieu Competition, The Champion, 166 Lord Street, Southport.

Q: Which city in the Netherlands is Andre Rieu from?

Entries must reach us no later Wednesday, than December 5. Winners will be the first three correct entries drawn at random. Usual competition rules apply, Editor's decision final.

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LITTLE THEATRE
Home of the
Southport Dramatic Club

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Box Office Opens: 17th September 2018 at 11.00am
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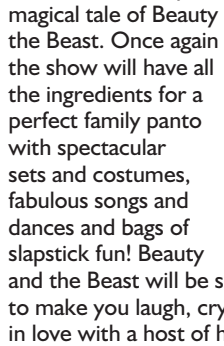
www.littletheatresouthport.co.uk Hoghton Street, Southport PR9 0PA
Registered Charity No: 1164398

Your guide to what's on this Festive Season It's

Southport Theatre
Beauty & The Beast

Join in for a beauty of a pantomime this festive season. Southport Theatre are planning another fabulous panto this year with the magical tale of Beauty and the Beast. Once again the show will have all the ingredients for a perfect family panto with spectacular sets and costumes, fabulous songs and dances and bags of slapstick fun! Beauty and the Beast will be sure to make you laugh, cry and fall in love with a host of hilarious and hairy characters so book your tickets now for this fun-filled panto, and discover if Beauty can see beyond appearances and learn to love a beast!



The Atkinson
Dear Santa

From the author of the well-loved children's book DEAR ZOO, Rod Campbell. Santa is determined to deliver the most fantastic Christmas present to our little hero Sarah. But he doesn't get it right straight away! With the help of his cheeky Elf, he finally settles on something 'perfect', just in time for Christmas Eve. All the ingredients of Rod Campbell's ingeniously simple and charming style are brought to life on stage, plus a whole lot more… with music, laughter and plenty of audience participation.
Plus the opportunity to meet Santa himself and after the show, each child will receive a small gift. A perfect introduction to theatre for those aged 2 to 7 years old, DEAR SANTA is a Christmas present children and parents alike will never forget.

THE ATKINSON

Box office:
theatkinson.co.uk
01704 533 333
(Booking fees apply)

The Atkinson
Lord Street
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Sefton Council

Dear Santa

By the creator of Dear Zoo

Meet Santa himself after the show, every child will receive a small gift!

Book Now! – theatkinson.co.uk

Wednesday 12 – Tuesday 18 December
Show times vary

Rod Campbell's classic children's book is magically brought to life in a Christmas treat for children aged 2-7 years old.

STARRING SAM KANE

Beauty & the Beast

Fri 21 Dec 2pm – Senior Special
£20 seniors tickets with a mince pie and a cuppa.

Thu 27 Dec 5.30pm – Signed Performance
£12 tickets for the hearing impaired
A sign language interpreter will be on stage so nobody misses the fun.

Fri 28 Dec 2pm – Relaxed Performance
All seats £12 so sit back and relax.
Expect no surprises and lights on. The perfect environment for those (but not limited to) with autistic spectrum conditions, or families with young children.
Make as much noise as you'd like.

WATERFRONT
SOUTHPORT THEATRE
FRI 14 – SUN 30 DEC 2018
Box Office: 01704 500036
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Showtime!

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Liverpool Empire
Jack & the Beanstalk

Fee-Fi-Fo-Fum, a giant of a panto comes to Liverpool this Christmas, starring Merseyside's own dancing sensation Shirley Ballas as Mother Nature and by popular demand the return of comic John Evans as Simple Simon. Brought to you by the world's biggest pantomime producer, Qdos Entertainment, you can be sure of a pantomime packed with spectacular special effects, laugh-out-loud comedy, live music, and one giant beanstalk! This year's Liverpool Empire panto will be a strictly sensation treat for all the family.

LIVERPOOL EMPIRE COMPETITION

CHAMPION NEWSPAPERS HAVE TWO FAMILY TICKETS TO GIVE AWAY for Tuesday 18th December at 7pm

Simply tell us who is playing Mother Nature in this years Pantomime.

Answers on a postcard to be sent into:
Panto Competition, Champion Newspapers, 166 Clare House, Southport, PR9 0QA.

CLOSING DATE Monday 3rd December 5pm.

Southport Dramatic Club
Cinderella

Join us for the Fairy Godmother of all pantomimes this Christmas with a stunning show for all the family. The most enchanting rags to riches fairytale has everything you want from a festive extravaganza. With stunning sets, lavish costumes, hilarious comedy, breath-taking song and dance, bags of audience participation and a sprinkling of panto magic, you shall go to the Ball this Christmas!

Pleasurefolk
Robinson Crusoe

Pleasure Folk AMS is an award-winning society who have been performing pantomimes for nearly 50 years! This year they proudly present the swash-buckling family pantomime - Robinson Crusoe. Set aboard the Dastardly Barnacle with Captain Blood and his crew of (not-so-scary) pirates, this pantomime will definitely float your boat! Jam-packed with comedy, music and audience participation you're destined for a fabulous experience.

SHIRLEY BALLAS
JOHN EVANS
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Champion ENTERTAINMENT

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John Delahunty as Tickles and Paul Wilkinson as Dame Ammonia in the 2015 Southport Dramatic Club's production of Sleeping Beauty

Win a family pass for Cinderella

SOUTHPORT Dramatic Club's spectacular family pantomime this year is Cinderella and the Champion has a family pass of four tickets to give away for the show.

The show is directed by Kate Miles-Roberts and runs from Thursday, December 20 to Sunday, January 6.

This show is aimed at the whole family. The rags to riches fairytale has been described as a festive extravaganza with stunning sets, lavish costumes, hilarious comedy, breath-taking song and dance and bags of audience participation.

The cast is as follows – Cinderella Molly Wilkinson; Buttons John Delahunty; Prince Charming Tom McMullan; Fairy Godmother Ellie McKinnon; Baroness Hardup Jen Corcoran; Kourtney Sian Woolley; Kim Paul Wilkinson; Queen Marie Orr; Lady Primula Eleanor Gillow; Lady Proper Martha Jenkinson; and Major Domo Harry Gascoigne.

The Southport Dramatic Club is based at Hoghton Street. To book tickets call the Box Office on 01704 530521, 01704 530460 or log on to www.littletheatresouthport.co.uk

To win our competition answer the following question – Who is playing Cinderella in Southport Dramatic Club's pantomime? Answers to Champion Newspapers, Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport, PR9 OQA. The tickets are for the show on Tuesday, January 1 at 5.15pm only. Please supply a daytime telephone number. The closing date is Friday, December 14 at 12 noon.

Prize-winning Leyland Band will perform at village hall

PARBOLD Douglas Music is to present the prize-winning Leyland Band, recognised for their entertaining concerts, performing in the Auditorium in the Village Hall on Saturday, December 8 at 7.45 pm.

The evening has proved to be of great interest to audiences and only return tickets are available. The audience are looking forward to the Band presenting an interesting and rousing evening.

The first half of the concert is a compilation of music and reminiscences to commemorate the end of World War 1 entitled: 1918: To end all…a reflection on the day when one hundred years ago the guns fell silent at the end of the world's first global war. The second half of the evening will provide a traditional Christmas Concert filled with joyous Christmas sounds to herald the coming of the festive season.

Leyland Band was established in 1946 in the heart of industrial Lancashire as the Leyland Motors Band, and is now an independent group of some 30 musicians, that proudly bears the name of its home town. The last 25 years of the Bands existence has been the most consistently successful in its history

Only returned tickets will be available on the evening. To check if any tickets become available go online to www.parbolddouglasmusic.org, e-mail: tickets@parbolddouglasmusic.org or telephone: 01257 498452 (booking answerphone).

Leyland Band has earned its reputation as an unrivalled concert entertainer by producing dynamic and unique performances both at home and abroad. The evening will encourage reflection and traditional Christmas tunes and is another Parbold concert not to be missed.

Leyland band

English National Ballet's Swan Lake was spellbinding

Review by **Kenny Parker**

I do not have much experience of watching ballet, having only seen The Nutcracker, but I think it's safe to say you don't need to know your ballet to be blown away by English National Ballet's new production of Tchaikovsky's other famous work, Swan Lake.

In the opening scenes of the award winning production, which was choreographed by Derek Deane, evil sorcerer Rothbart appeared magnificently in a puff of smoke. I did think after the first act that he was going to be the star of the show, dominating the stage as he swirled about with his splendid winged costume.

That impression was well and truly turned on its head, however, from the beginning of the second act, as the swan maidens streamed down a ramp onto the stage and proceeded to mesmerize with their flawlessly synchronised movements.

The maidens, trapped in Rothbart's curse to live their lives by day as swans were captivating enough. But the graceful, emotionally expressive, and seemingly faultless performances of Odette, played by Russian dancer Jurgita Dronina, and her prince, Siegfried, played by Mexican Isaac Hernandez, were simply spellbinding and beautiful.

Much of the music to Swan Lake is familiar yet despite being so well known it did not lose any of its power and it was good to see it being performed in its originally intended context.

The dances were varied, in both mood and style – such as the flamenco inspired dance in the third act, set in the Great Hall to the accompaniment of castanets, which was a joy to watch.

The costumes invoking period and class were exquisite and the sets depicting wooded scene outside the palace, the lakeside and the Great Hall helped create a richly atmospheric stage.

There was a teenage girl sitting behind me who had evidently never been to ballet before. I heard her say to her companions, "This is so good", and at the conclusion of one sequence when Siegfried picked up Odette and lifted her into the air, I heard her say "Wooooow!" The audience were similarly impressed, showing their appreciation with hearty applause. At the end there was a standing ovation.

10/10 Wonderful.

A scene from Swan Lake

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PAVING FLAGS 37 small paving flags. 1 x 1".£1each. Buyer collects 07840530331

DIGGING SPADE 'Bulldog' Evergreen garden spade. Very good condition. Durable. Heavy duty. £6.00 07810338675

CONCRETE FLAGS 22 Concrete grey paving flags (council style). Buyer collects. Good condition. £1 each 07840530331

PAVING FLAGS 17 paving flags 2 x 2". Make good shed base. £1 each . buyer collects. 07840530331

GARDENING

THAMESVALLEY FLINT 3 unopened midi bags, golden coloured with shades of cream, grey, and brown. 4mm to 10mm. £4 per bag. 01695 578368

POLLYTUNNEL 20 x 10 foot heavy duty ,quality item.Together with many pots and canes.First to see will buy.£300 bargain. 07792927610

BUILDERS BAG
LOGS FOR SALE £30
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HOBBIES

JIM REEVES Boxed set 6 LP's "Golden Memories" £6 07704 785755

VINYL RECORD LP record storage cases in excellent condition £4.00 each 01515262502

POND YACHTS & Suitcase speed boats for sale, all good condition 01704 222997

40 LITRE Aquaroll fresh water container good clean condition can deliver £30 07879 087669

SEWING BOX Wooden three tier cantilever sewing box. Excellent condition. £5 0151 9221826

PENDELFIN RABBITS 2 dodger & Barney few scuffs £7 bootle 01512870112

TIMBERLAND TROUSERS £10 navy 33 inch large work 01512870112

LEFT-HANDED electric guitar, strat type with amp, bag, tuner, strap, lead & stand. £79 07504888423

SHUBB CAPO for electric and acoustic guitar, nickel finish, new still in sealed package. £15 07504888423

CARPOLOGY MAGAZINES About 50 covering the last 4 years. Excellent condition many never read. £15:00 0777698733

TRAVEL BAG Tan suede patchwork bag H35 W46 D14 cms. Never used still with labels on. £20 0151 9321725

LIVERPOOL HARDBACK books: Benitez, Gerrard, gathering Cups in May, good condition £20 07802 638376

HILLBILLY COMPACT Plus electric golf trolley in excellent, clean condition. Ready for use. Bargain at only £45. Southport. 07808484721

KEYBOARD BAG genuine for 61 note keyboard, sturdy, thick yet soft plastic. light tan, L 95cm W 29cm D 8cm £25 ono 0151 5275755

PENDELFIN RABBITS 2 dodger n barney few scuffs £10 good condition red shorts and blue blanket stonecroft uk 01512870112

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COLLECTORS SET of six corgi Noddy in Toyland cars and figures - full set new in boxes Ideal Xmas present £50 01704569028

COLLECTORS VINTAGE Chad Valley large teddy bear approx. 28''h £50 Two steiff soft toy teddies one white one brown £10 each 01704 569028

MELISSA & DOUG lifelike and lovable black Labrador apprx 26in high x 31in to tail. Suitable toy or display £20 01704 569028

COLLECTORS TWO 15in porcelain dolls Victorian collectors series by heritage min (1989). Alexandra and Sarah still in original boxes £10 pair 01704 569028

VINTAGE 1950'S max factor sophisti-cat hypnotique perfume - black cat - full bottle perfume in dome make nice display for collectors VGC £15 01704 569028

CYCLING HELMET Pink/white floral girls Raleigh cycling helmet. Model Rogue girl. size 52-57cm. Weight 214-236g Used but good condition £5 07851 027652

JUKI OVERLOCKER Coverstitch sewing machine MO-735. Complete with accessories and instruction manuals.Not used. RRP £1200. Sell £850 ono 01704573196

FISHING LANDING net,maver nano mesh oval with adjustable angle screw thread,with 2 metre telescopic pole/handle,collect in ormskirk £15 ono. 07809255966

FISHING HOLDALL leeda concept gt,rigid case for 2 made up rods with reels,as new,never used,carry handle,shoulder strap,190cm long,collect in ormskirk. £15 07809255966

FISHING BAG net holdall,preston inovations competition pro,single net bag,large zipped compartment,with outer net pocket,as new,never used,collect ormskirk. £12. 07809255966

MINIATURE RAILWAYS Past & present by Anthony Lambert 1st edition pub 1982 hardback ISBN 0715381091 History of UK. Miniature railways, photographic £4 01704 874084

ALLBROOKS GROOMING MANUAL Dog Grooming for Pleasure or Profit. Provides useful information for anyone connected with dog grooming (rare book) £15 01704 569028

COLLECTORS BOXED set matchbox series 40th anniversary commemorative pack five vehicles - fire engine milk cart bus tractor road roller £10 01704 569028

FENDER USA 1994 genuine and all original Telecaster, sunburst with rosewood neck, beautiful tone, low action, excellent condition, soft case £900 01704831977

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

14" SONY Television £25 ono 0151 5202008

BEDSIDE CABINETS 2 solid pine 3 drawer bedside cabinets £45 for the 2 07708 681331

SANYO TV 26 with freeview and remote control Exellent Condition £60 07787323036

SANYO TV 26 With Freeview Excellent Condition £60 07787323036

DVD BOX SET fear the walking dead complete series 1 to 3 as new £10 01704 260759

CLASSICAL GUITAR for sale plus guitar stand £20. Phone after 6pm 01704 560002

YAMAHA ENTERTAINMENT Station stand & mic, instructions £50ono 0151 4746945

DESK WORKSTATION light colour, brand new still in box, £25, ideal for Christmas 07599 471640

X BOX Limited Edition, Translucent Green, Console & 2 controllers, cables, 5 games, Burscough £50 01704 893195

PIONEER HIFI 3 piece hifi twin cd twin tape deck 240 watt digital synthesizer tuner/amp turntable needs slight attention good condition £80 07708 681331

NINTENDO WII Console 10 Games, 1 Nunchuck, Sensor bar, 2 Steering Wheels, Power Pack, 2 Controllers all wires Excellent Condition £85 07787323036

TV STAND black glass tv stand 80cm x 40cm x 510cm. Couple of minor scratches on top shelf but otherwise good condition. 07376081520

TV STAND black glass 3 shelf TV stand 80cm x 40cm x 51cm. Couple of minor scratches on top shelf but otherwise good condition. £20 07376081520

FERGUSON RECORD Player old type plus 45 LP's. Offers. No Time Wasters Please. Ladies Bike £25. Call after 5 0151 9240676

GOLDSTAR TV Good 19 inch tv on a wheeled base. In very good condition. Requires a Freeview box. Ideal for bedroom £29 07387439004

PANASONIC SOUNDBASE Panasonic SC-HTE80 home theatre audio system/soundbase. As new condition with box, instructions, remote etc. Bargain £65 01704 544331

NINTENDO WII White Console 2 Controllers, 1 Nunchuck, Sensor bar, 2 steering wheels, Power Pack, 10 Games wires inc Excellent Condition £85 07787323036

YAMAHA KEYBOARD Digital PSR-E413 Keyboard. 61 note portable keyboard with music stand. X style and all manuals. Immaculate condition. £125 07747 616679

SOUNDBAR Orbitsound M10LX soundbar with wired subwoofer, complete with remote control, all cables and installation instructions. Just £50.00. 01704 531500

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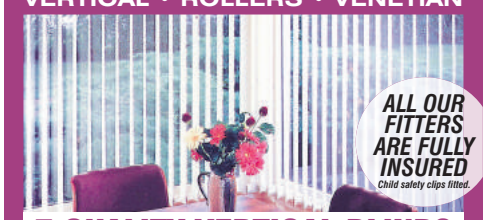

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HOUSE AND HOME

LAURA ASHLEY 3 Seater Couch, Chair and Pouffe. Very Good Condition. £300. 07783 757714

M&S Dark brown leather 2 seater, electric, lazyboy style, reclining sofa. Perfect condition. £275 Tel. 07798504885

CHEVALIER MIRROR White mirror £12 07599071943

NEO ORNAMENTS 5 girl figurines. £35 / 0151 9321725

HIFI UNIT Ducal solid wood hi fi unit. £100 01704576177

MIRROR Pine framed full length mirror. £7 01704 573196

TABLETOP FREEZER AVR 105 £40 0151 5200124

RECLINER CHAIR black, manual £30 01704 551966

SOFA BED Hardly used. £60.00 ono 01704538825

PINE ROUND table 3' diameter and 2 chairs £60 01704807548

JUICER Molyneux Juice Master Plus £10 01704 893195

HIFI CABINET solid pine hifi / display cabinet adjustable middle shelf £60 07708 681331

BEDSIDE CABINET 2 pine 3 drawer bedside cabinets £45 for the 2 07708 681331

DINING TABLE Dark wood extendible round table with 4 chairs £150 ono 07756229527

TV UNIT Light wood 30 inch high, 22 inch deep, 16 inch deep £20 ono 07756229527

METAL GATES £100 double gates width 276 cm approx 144 cm max height 07896566849

FIRESIDE CHAIRS 2 oak arm chairs in beige velvet very good condition £60 ono 07717511432

TORQUAY WARE cups, saucers, jug, condiment set, pot and basket. £25 / 0151 9321725

HUMMEL ORNAMENTS 4 boy and girl figurines with ducks and flowers. £15 / 0151 9321725

TEAL CURTAINS 90 x 72 from Next. Excellent condition. £10 / 0151 9321725

LLOYD LOOM linen baskets H55 W41 D25 or H53 W30 D24 £15 each 0151 9321725

STUART CRYSTAL wine glasses x 6 in original box. Photo available £45 0151 9321725

VINTAGE VASES pair of pink vases 6 inches tall. Photo available £10 0151 9321725

COTTAGE WARE Teapot, jug and Butter dish. Photo available £20 0151 9321725

CANDLESTICKS pair of clear glass candlesticks. Photo available £10 0151 9321725

HOOVER VACUUM Hoover Curve vacuum with tools hardly used.£20 01704894338

MIRROR Dark wooden framed full length mirror. £7 01704 573196

GREY RUG Shag pile grey rug in excellent condition. 240 x 180cm. £45 ono 01704573196

OILFILLED RADIATOR Glen, good working order £15 01704 876855

OILFILLED RADIATOR Glen, good working order £15 01704 876855

HOSTESS TROLLEY heated complete with dishes, good condition £80 0151 5264474

INDESIT FRIDGE under counter, due to kitchen refit, good clean condition £40 01704 506120

2 CHROME Leather top stole & 2 wooden stools £30 07989584631 or 0151 5261919

2 RADIATOR Covers cabinets 67x35 also 47x35 £25 each 01704 872653

LEATHER SOFA dark brown excellent condition £175 01704 534 470 or 07860 645878

VERTICAL BLIND drop 229cm width 244cms new never opened. £30.00 01695573966

INDIAN FURNITURE 3 pieces of solid wood furniture - £199 01704577193 (evenings)

FORMICA KITCHEN TABLE and three pine chairs £20 07578971772

IRONING BOARD Sturdy Brabantia ironing board. £6 0151 9221826

FOLDING TABLE Suitable for wallpapering / sewing table or guests. £20.00 01704 538825

HOUSE AND HOME

FREE CHAIRS Pair of small Jade Green winged chairs.Buyer collects. 01519220043

PINE DRESSING table 4 drawers,stool and mirror £40 01704 807548

PINE BEDSIDE cabinets Good quality & condition £15 each 01704 807548

FRIDGE UNDERCOUNTER in very good clean condition no marks on it. Needs salad drawer £45ono 07741206449

ROYAL BRIERLEY Glass Vase, patterned heavy solid lead crystal vase 8" high £30 ono 07704 785755

CHEST FREEZER In excellent condition, whirlpool chest freezer, 31.5x23.5 inches, £75. 01695 421379

DARK OAK Bedroom suite. 'Hero' traditional style: wardrobe plus 3 x draw chest and 2 x bedside tables £275 07798504885

CANVAS WARDROBE biege canvas wardrobe wooden frame 4 shelves good condition £25 ovno 07708 681331

DINING TABLE Extending with 6 chairs & 2 cravers dark wood with matching display unit £300 07756229527

LEATHER SOFAS 3 & 2 seater in brown leather 39 inch high ,36 inch deep,different widths £200 07756229527

DISPLAY UNIT Dark wood 72 inch high, 18 inch deep, 56 inch wide with cut glass & lights £100 ono 07756229527

DISPLAY UNIT Dark wood 72 inch high, 36 inch wide, 18 inch deep with cut glass & lights £100 ono 07756229527

LADRO FIGURINE Large ornament of a lady by ladro was over £200 will except £100 ono 07756229527

TV STAND Clear glass with 3 glass shelves 20 inch high, 16 inch deep, 40 inch wide £30 ono 07756229527

HOTPOINT FREEZER Silver frost free 54 inch high, 24 inch deep, 24 wide with 6 drawers £150 ono 07756229527

DVD CARSOUL Dark wood 29 inch high, 16 wide, 17 deep. excellent condition £100 ono 07756229527

G PLAN 3pce suite 1 reclines 3 seat settee and 1 arm chair gold/beige very good condition £250 07717511432

JAPANESE COFFEE Set coffe pot, milk jug, sugar bowl and 4 cups and saucers. £15 / 0151 9321725

VINTAGE SUITCASE Dark Brown Leather H10 W16 D5 inches. Dates back to 1940's. £20 / 0151 9321725

DRESSING TABLE Set (vintage) in yellow glass. Tray, ring holder, candlesticks etc. 7 pieces. Photo available. £50 0151 9321725

CHRISTMAS TREE STAND Beautiful Very Heavy Cast Iron Christmas tree stand. 26 inch spread £20 07730799707

TV STAND Glass, black, 3 shelves corner TV unit. 80cm x 45cm Upholland. £25 07586850011

TWO SEATER cottage sofa, grey wood £50. Dyson roller ball upright cleaner, model DC50 £50 0151 9313668

KESSEBOHMER LEMANS intelligent corner unit, bough in April this year and unused £40 07810 701135

GLASS TOP COMPUTER DESK excellent condition £15. Swivel chair in white, excellent condition £20 07952 205074

SMALL SINK white porcelain and chrome taps, suitable for downstairs wc £20 0151 4740792

FAN HEATERS 2 electric small fan heaters, still in box £5 each. White toaster, very good condition £5 0151 5266382

2 SOFAS 3 seaters, white leather, excellent condition, W84" D36", £400 for both or will split 07437 495307

VACUUM CLEANER numatic henry type with hose and brush, perfect condition £40 0151 5272392

STEAM BLASTER Shark, hardly used, working condition you only need water to clean everything £30 0151 9332041

2 SOFAS 2 x two seater grey/black sofas with scatter cushions - Very good condition - £295 01704577193 (evenings)

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HOUSE AND HOME

INFLATABLE BED Restform inflatable double bed with storage bag. Never used. £30 7919532883

PATCHWORK SOFA and matching winged back chair for sale. 12 months old very colourful. £150 each item 07467224599

OIL PAINTINGS two framed originals, landscapes by local artist Richard Sumner £15 the two 0151 9281955

BATHROOM SINK White basin and pedestal. Contemporary. £20. Buyer collects 07840530331

BLACKOUT ROLLERBLIND JOHN LEWIS. Brand new in box-,152cmx 160cm drop. RRP£45. Bargain £15. 07980 162415

HAIR STRAIGHTENERS With Brush heats up easy to use. Brand new. Ideal Christmas present. Bargain £15. 07980 162415

CREAM LEATHER suite ex Stokers , modern love seat. As new cost £3000, due to house move £800 01704 807548

LAMPSHADE Standard lamp shade,large with long fringe, dusky pink with fleck.Burscough £12 01704 893195

GAS COOKER with hob and grill, offers Tel: 01704 893562

WELSH DRESSER Solid pine, dovetail joints etc. 3 shelves, 2 drawers, 2 cupboards. 77" height, 32" width, 18" depth. £50 01704566369

COFFEE TABLE Rectangular glass topped with antique brass effect legs ex Marks and Spencer excellent condition £75 07751924207

CHILDRENS CANOPY White net with pastel floral detail. Green with white spot trim at the top. From clean smoke free home. £5 07851 027652

ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS Tree, 7ft high with 300 built in red cherry lights, green, 24v transformer, fire retardent. £40. 01704 530137

SOLID WOOD Medium oak TV and media cabinet, 2 units 76cmH x 50cmD x 110cmL & 54cmH x 40cmD x 62cmL. £75 07798504885

VACUUM CLEANER G-TEC cordless vacuum cleaner. Excellent condition (buyer to collect Crosby area). £45. 01519247354

KYLIE BEDDING 2 king size duvet sets, 2 Sequin cushions, 1 sequin bed throw. All new, unused and in original packaging. £190 07599 071943

MEDIA UNITS 2 mahogany glass door media units, corner TV unit two shelves, HiFi unit with storage. Offers welcome 07810540634

CORNER TV Beautiful corner TV unit, medium oak, storage drawer, media shelf, 80cms, as new, can send photos, £65. Matching coffee table 07814480727

3+2 SOFAS two beautiful cream cord sofas with footstool bought March 2018 foam cushions, 210 x 80 and 154 x 80.£300 07814480727

TEAK WARDROBES one double one single with shelves both have deep shelf lift up door top exl condition £60 ono 07717511432

DINING CHAIRS 2 high back nearly new 2 low back beige seats 1 black leather look chair gd cond £15 each 07717511432

BEDDING SET King Size quilt-cover with pillowcases plus eyelet curtains 66x90 all from Next. White Grey and gold geometric pattern £35 / 0151 9321725

DINNER SET M&S Chrysanthemum design 57 items includes dinner plates,cups and saucers Teapot, sugar bowl etc £130 0151 9321725

HOUSE AND HOME

CHRISTMAS TREE BASE ROUND Cast iron ornate heavy duty base 7.5 inches internal diameter for large tree VGC. £45 01704560150

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS 2 lots of 20 traditional tree lights. Icicles set and various coloured set. All working and in good condition. £10 for all 01704560150

CHRISTMAS VILLAGE DECORATION 2 Buildings light up. Santa on sleigh with reindeer flies round roof tops. Resin 11x 7x 9 inches high. £8 01704560150

TOY CHEST White wooden with side metal handles. Flower pattern painted on top and front. H18 W 21 D15 inches VGC £28 01704560150

WARDROBE Double door vintage walnut veneer with key part hanging part shelves interior mirror H 70 W 36 D 21 inches. May deliver £38 01704560150

PAIR TABLES Round chipboard tables matched pair Height 62 x 50 cm diameter. Good overall condition. May deliver £18 01704560150

VACCUM CLEANER Dyson DC07, bagless upright, strong suction, nice clean condition, can deliver £45 Southport 214498

DINNER TROLLEY Phillips Hostess Dinner Trolley, Two oven Shelves +4 Top Dishes With Lids,Good Condition. £40. Southport, 01704 808691

KITCHEN SHELF 1/2 circle corner cabinet carousel shelf. Top shelf swivels independently. Fits 800/1000mm corner floor unit. £40 ono 01704573196

CANE SUITE 2 seater sofa 2 chairs, thick loose cushions. Salmon/Pink, very strong and sturdy, good condition 01704 573645mob07543145602

DINING TABLE solid light oak table 60"x42" plus 2 extra leaves 12" wide each.sits 6to10 people Plus 6 free chairs £79 01704 573645mobile07543145602

RECLINING SWIVEL chair and matching footstool, wooden base by Goodyear, Mawdesley, new cost £500, accept £170 01695 229814

GAS FIRE with coals and brass front, side ignition for easy lighting £50. Exercise bike with computer settings, adjustable speed £45 01704 220143

CEILING LIGHT five uprights, B&Q new in box £20. Ribbing attachment for Brother knitting machine KR850 £20 01695 573853

CURTAINS cream satin brocade 12ft x 7ft with graduated frill, excellent condition, cost £300 when new, £40,with matching tiebacks 0151 5318632

2 SEATER denim sofa £30. Little Tikes sit in police car £10. Disney princess bike, 4-6yrs £10. Scuttle Bug, red £5 07584 169267

ELECTRIC ARMCHAIR Large Riser/Recliner, electric armchair, chocolate leather, hardly used, very good condition £395 01704 579371

SLEEPING BAGS 2 traditional type, king size. Perfect condition, ideal for Christmas guests. Can be zipped together for two people. £18 for both 01695 322752

COOL BOX Thermos cool box. Clean, excellent condition. Keep your wine cool over Christmas when the fridge is full. £4 01695 322752

TABLE LAMPS Two lamps in very nice condition, will separate if required. Selling only due to down sizing to smaller property, bargain £20 07387439004

CHRISTMAS TREE Artificial tree, bought from John Lewis approx 5 ft tall, comes apart for easy storage bargain only £50 07941082422

HOUSE AND HOME

M&S Sofa 3 seat very good condition gold fabric has had little use traditional style firm cushions very comfortable £100 01704 549616

DOUBLE BEDS Two double beds for sale, storage drawers in base, very good condition. £25 each. Pick up near Tarleton. 07919532883

LEATHER BRIEFCASE / laptop case , tan leather, by Hide Design, excellent condition, cost over £300 new £50 0151 9281955

PICTURE FRAMES assortment of picture frames, different colours/sizes, offers from 50p. wide range to choose from. 07928700023

DINING TABLE Antique Mexican Pine table with matching 6 chairs with 2 carvers. Excellent condition and absolute bargain.£150ono. 07964963497

CHRISTMAS TREE 7ft Artificial Christmas Tree frosted green with real pine cones and off season storage bag £50 07525910932 Evenings

JOHN LEWIS lamp / ceiling shades. Different sizes and colours. All brand new, in wrappers, £5-£15 Each. RRP£200. 07980 162415

***FREE* 2 SEATER SOFA** and two chairs. Dark Brown Leather. FREE TO COLLECT. 07725 461652

HALOGEN OVEN Halogen Oven. Little use with an extra bowl & eOxtension ring, also many extras. eg cooking dishes & Halogen cookery book.Bargain £45 01519293423

KYLIE BEDDING New in packaging, silver 2 King size covers with pillowcases, 2 sequin Cushions, 2 Oxford pillowcases, sequin bed throw. £190 07599071943

MIELE VACUUM Black C3 power line, fantastic suction, hardly used, instructions, filters, spare bags - absolute bargain £55. Would suit a larger property! 0151 9249972

COFFEE TABLE Beautiful piece of quality furniture, solid medium oak, 4 drawers and handles 110/60/50cms. Can send photos. Matching TV unit.£130 07814480727

LIGHT FITTINGS Two Matching Ceiling Pendant Light Fittings 3 Lights Each Fitting Internet Reference 7133 AB, Antique Brass Finish £90 the Pair 07305 839665

CHRISTMAS TREE BAUBLES 32 shatterproof red and gold various shapes Christmas tree baubles and star shaped tinsel excellent condition. £10 01704560150

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS Approx. 50 vintage Christmas tree baubles, mainly spun silk. Many colours in good condition.£10 the lot. 01704560150

HOUSE & HOME John Lewis/Morphy Richards wooden servery 3 shelved heater cabinet with top heating surface for plates perfect working order £40ono 01695 574542

DISPLAY CABINET light oak buffet, 4 glass doors, mirrored back, internal light, glass shelving. 4 door cupboards, cutlery drawer good condition. £99 01704 573645mobile07543145602

DINING TABLE modern mahogany style dropleaf 60"x42", when folded 14"wide, easy movable on castors with locks, excellent condition.£55 01704 573645mobile07543145602

PORCELAIN TILES Stylish grey. Koan Waves from La Fabbrica. 26 brand new tiles 600mmX300mm (2'X1') + some large offcuts. £100. 01695 578368

INTERIOR DOOR plastic wrapped, smooth surface, white high gloss, reassuringly heavy, 4 hinges included. 67"x24"x3/4" (174cmX60cmX2cm). Excellent condition. £15. 01695 578368

TABLE & CHAIRS Attractive solid wood table 3ft x 3ft with removable legs and 4 chairs. GC. To suit modern or traditional home. Buyer collects. £70. 07783 957 954

BEAUTIFUL PIECE OF FURNITURE made by pineapple Park Joiners ideal for storage lovely roll down front, excellent condition, downsizing £45 07880 704265

HOUSE AND HOME

TABLE LAMPS A traditional brass effect style oil table lamp with unusual glass shade. £35.00. Two others lamps for sale also 07387439004

VINTAGE PRESS Cast iron book/flower press,brass handle ends. Works,some rust /paint chipped Plate measures 14x10 , total height 18.£200 ONO 01704 566487

PORTABLE DEHUMIDIFIER Different scents, cherry, jasmine, fresh cotton. 240g boxes. Ideal for caravans, boats, cupboards, wardrobe's, campers. Call for details. 07989 162415

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MISC

CAST TICKETS 2 tickets Liverpool gig, 22 Dec, £50 ono Contact Flo on 07979189170

ASHTON DRAKE SO TRULY REAL DOLLS From £40 Also Disney ornaments £15 each Tel: 07739 040838

PIGSKIN WALLET Vintage made in Gt Britain, lovely condition £8 07704 785755

CURLING TONGS Diva hair curling tongs £20 Ono vgc 07896566849

SPACE HEATER small garage type, not with bottle but seen working £40 0151 5272392

ACETATES for overhead projectors A4 size 143 sasco and 20 3m £5 01704 560518

YAMAH PORTATONE PSR-74 Electronic keyboard, good condition £45 01704 560518

ROCKING HORSE not a toy wooden hand painted for display only £10 07578971772

JACK DANIEL'S No7 3oz Hip Flask and box of Playing Cards, both in stainless steel £10 07704 785755

ELECTRIC GOLF TROLLEY in good working order. No battery included. Only £30. 07808484721

ARMANI BAG Brand new Armani womens grey bag still with tags on never used Excellent Condition £100 07787323036

IPOD TOUCH 32GB 3rd gen full working order good screen no headphones / ipod only bargain £40 07743101819

SMALL SUITCASE silver rigid ABS with wheels and handle size approx 45x33x23 cm. £10 07742 412634

EXPANDING HOLDALL Black Canvas with wheels.Size 40Hx47x27cm. Expands to 75cm high. £10 07742 412634

SAMSONITE HOLDALL Black size approx. 50x33x23cm folds down to A4 size.Never used £15 07742 412634

PARTY FACE MASK A large impressive peacock feather fancy dress party mask used once. £10 01704560150

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MISC

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TWO SEATER Leather couch cream VGC £65 ono Long coffee table VGC £75 ono. Ladies size 14 green bridesmaid dress £65 ono 07860605607

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MISC

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- Speaking to customers and advising on availability, colour and sizes of product.
- Typing responses to live chat.
- Taking basic customer service calls.
- Sending quotations by email.
- Advising on delivery methods.

The ideal candidate must have a great telephone manner.
Good grammar and punctuation.
Excellent time keeping and attendance.

The office is open;
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(banks hols inc)

Hours are worked on a rota basis, Saturday & Sunday can be split shifts.
Full Time or Part Time

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Sales/Customer service experience preferred but not essential. Confident and friendly with good communication skills.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

HARRISON PETER

Judith and family would like to thanks all family, friends and neighbours for the love and kindness shown to them at this sad time. Also for the donations received in Peter's memory for the North West Air Ambulance. Thanks also to the Reverend Ian Mainey for his kind words of comfort and ministrations and to all the team at Moisters Funeral Care for all their help and dignified funeral arrangements

BOSTOCK ROSALIE

Brian and family would like to thanks all family and friends for the kindness and sympathy shown to them following their recent sad loss and also for all of the donations for Claire House Children's Hospice. Thanks also to HDU and ITU at Southport Hospital for their care, Father Des Seddon and Deacon Graham from St Mary's Church, Aughton and Sally from MLS Independent Funeral Directors for their support and dignified funeral arrangements.

LEA JOAN

Norman and family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all Relatives, Friends and Neighbours for all the sympathy cards, messages of condolence and Donations for Southport & Ormskirk Charitable District Fund (N.W Patients Spinal Unit), received during their recent sad loss of a very much loved Wife, Mum, Nana and Friend. Thanks also to Rev. Pauline Bicknell for her kind words of comfort and a very fitting service for Joan and to Lisa Hunter and the Team at MLS Independent Funeral Directors for their dignified Funeral Arrangements.

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

SHEARIN McCLELLAND RAYMOND PETER

Born 26th November 1962

Died 29th January 2004

It's many years since you went away
But we think about you every day
You will always be remembered by all of us
Lots of love your Daughter Robyn and Ben, your four Grandchildren, your Brothers, Sisters, all the family and Mum and Dad
Rest in peace Son
XXXX

DEATHS

BYARD DAVID

17th November 2018

Aged 72 years

Died peacefully in Southport Hospital. David will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Ormskirk L40 7SP on Friday 30th November at 10:45am. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being collected for Woodlands Animal Sanctuary & Compassion In Dying (compassionindying.org.uk) Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone 01704 500086.

PRESCOTT CHRISTINE

19th November 2018

Aged 50 Years

Dearly loved Wife of Gary. Christine will be sadly missed by all her family and many friends. Celebration of life to take place at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough on Thursday 6th December 2018 at 4pm. No black to be worn. Family flowers only please, donations if desired will be gratefully received for Queenscourt Hospice.

Further enquiries to Newland & Wilkinson, 311, Hesketh Lane, Tarleton, PR4 6RJ. Tel 01772 811165.

DEATHS

MILLS STEVE

18th November 2018

Aged 54 years

Loving Husband of Gill, much loved Dad of Chris. Cherished Grandad of Ronnie and Harry, Son-in-law of Robert and Joan. Steve will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Friday 30th November at 2:40pm. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being collected for Queenscourt Hospice. Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

WHEELER GORDON

24th November 2018

Aged 81 years

Died peacefully surrounded by his loving family. Devoted Husband of Hilda. Much loved Dad of Geoffrey, Tracy & Andrew. Cherished Grandad & Great Grandad to all of his Grandchildren. Gordon will be greatly missed by all family and friends. Service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough, L40 7SP on Friday 7th December at 10:45am. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being collected for Alzheimer's Society. Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

DEATHS

HERSEY MAJOR JAMES (JIM)

Died peacefully on 18th November 2018

Aged 90 years

Devoted Husband to Jean and much loved Dad and Granddad who will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Requiem mass to be held at 10:30am on Friday 30th November at St Jerome's Catholic Church, Formby, L37 2LX followed by committal at Southport Crematorium, PR8 5JQ. Family flowers only please but donations to S.S.A.F.A Merseyside would be gratefully received Further enquiries to Coyne Bros. Funeral Directors, 3 Old Mill Lane, Formby, L37 3PE. Tel. 01704 873899

PERRY JOYCE

22nd November 2018

Peacefully in hospital

aged 86 years

of Skelmersdale

The dearly loved Wife of Alf, loving Mum of Billy, Alan, Steve, Les and Sue and devoted Nan to all her Grand and Great Grandchildren. Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Wednesday 5th December 2018 at 10:45am. Floral tributes welcome. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

HALE MARGARET

22nd November 2018

Passed away peacefully in hospital

aged 91 years

of Ormskirk

Dearly loved Wife of the late Fred, and devoted Mum to the late Chas, Graham and Gillian. Funeral Service and Interment at Ormskirk Parish Church on Friday 30th November at 10.30am. Family flowers only please but donations if so desired for the British Heart Foundation and North West Cancer Research.

Donations and further enquiries please to Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors. 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk. Tel: 01695 424888.

CORFIELD ANNA (ANNIE)

21st November 2018

Aged 89 years

Passed away peacefully with her loving Daughters Joan & Lorraine by her side. Devoted Wife of the late Albert. Proud Nana of Joanne, Phillip, Antony & Nicola. Cherished Great Grandma of Madison, Harriet & Martha & Mother-In-Law to David & David. Anna will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. Service at St. Cuthbert's Parish Church, Churchtown on Monday 3rd December at 1:30pm followed by committal at Southport Crematorium. Family flowers only please but if desired donations are being collected for Elm House Nursing Home & Macmillan Cancer Support. Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086

DEATHS

MOORE MARGARET MARY (JONES)

Nee Hogan

21st November 2018

Aged 91 years

Died peacefully in hospital. Dearly loved Wife of the late Ken, loving Mum of Pam, Barbara and David. Much loved Nana of Tina, Sara, Josh and Dan, Nana Margaret to her four Great Grandsons. Mother-in-law to Lol and Alison. Dear Step mum of Sue, Colin, Angie and their families. Margaret will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Thursday 29th November at 1:20pm. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being collected for the British Heart Foundation (Southport). Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

DEATHS

EDGAR GEORGE

20th November 2018

Peacefully in hospital

aged 82 years

of Ormskirk

Loving Husband of the late Hilda and a devoted Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. He will be sadly missed. Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Wednesday 28th November 2018 at 10:45am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Royal Marine Charitable Trust Fund. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co, Independent Family Funeral Directors of Ormskirk, Skelmersdale & Scarisbrick. Tel:01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

FARRINGTON JEAN

It is with great sadness we anounce the death of Jean on 22nd November 2018 at Fazakerley Hospital aged 90 years of New Lane, Aughton

Dearly Loved Wife of the late Eric, Beloved Mother of, Christine & Gillian, Much loved Grandmother of Alison, Andrew & David and Great Grandmother of Oliver, Joshua & Charlie. Funeral Service at St. Marks Church, Scarisbrick, on Thursday 6th December 2018 at 1.00 pm, followed by committal at Southport Crematorium.

Family flowers only please by request, but donations are being gratefully received for The British Heart Foundation. Donations and further enquires please to Lisa Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton Tel: 01695 424888.

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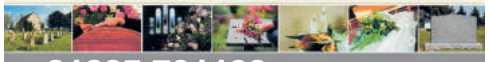

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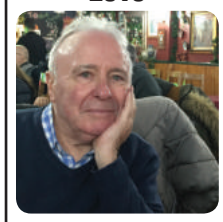
BIRTHDAYS

PATRICK CRILLY
Look Who Is 75!
22nd November 2018



We hope you had a wonderful birthday. Love you lots, Maureen, Sue, Hayley & Martin, Vicky, Shelley & Paul, Hayley-Rose and Heidi xxx

PRAYERS

Saint Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us, St. Jude worker of miracles pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless pray for us.

Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 8th day your prayers may be answered. Say it for 9 days and it has never been known to fail.

Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude

Instructions:
Light your candle and declare out loud what miracle you need right now. Repeat this prayer 9 times for 9 days. Do this at the same time each day, never skip a day. If you do, you need to start over again. On the 9th day give thanks, and say "So be it." Give it up to Saint Jude and let go of any worry. You will see results in 72 hours. Never use this prayer to manipulate or control anyone. Use it only with the best intentions.

This is the most important part of the entire process YOU MUST pass this miracle prayer onto others. Some people publish it in the paper, others e-mail it to their friends, and others post it in a public building.

T.

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PRAYERS

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine.

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published.

J.S.

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162055	28953
22445	306743
16401	177590
23002	143863
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92887	142588
20336	340029
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PUBLIC NOTICES

West Lancashire Borough Council

Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

2018/1049/FUL Change of use of land to create front and rear outside seating areas and erection of security gate to side at Dinky Dory, 23 Church Street, Ormskirk.
The application affects a Conservation Area.

2018/1149/FUL Variation of Condition No 5 of planning permission 2017/0970/COU to read: The premises shall be used for the manufacturing and distribution of fruit juice, confectionary sauce, compotes, pie fillings, soup and non-dairy yogurt products; and for no other purpose (including any other purpose in Class B2 and B8 of the Schedule to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended), or in any provision equivalent to that Class in any statutory instrument revoking and re-enacting that Order) at Supreme Foods Ltd , Degrave House, J4 Technology Park, Maple View, Whitemoss Business Park, Skelmersdale.

2018/1173/FUL Variation of Condition No's. 7 and 8 of planning permission 2017/0018/FUL relating to sustainable drainage systems at Len Wrights Salads Ltd, Hazeldene, Taylors Meanygate, Tarleton.

2018/1185/FUL Retrospective application for a single storey rear extension to accommodate a laundary,wc ,store and lobby at 9 Holly Lane, Rufford.
The application affects a Conservation Area.

2018/1186/FUL Extension to kennels at Tatlocks Farm, 82 Lord Sefton Way, Great Altcar.
The application affects a Conservation Area.

The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e-mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 24 days of the date of this notice quoting the application number.

Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

How information about you will be used
The personal data you provide will be used as part of the Council's statutory planning duties in processing planning and related applications. Some of the personal information, including your name and address, you provide will be published. For further information about this notice or how we use your personal data please see: http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning/planning-privacy-notices/level-2-development-management-cil-privacy-notice.aspx and http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/about-the-council/legal-statements-and-foi/privacy-and-data-protection-gdpr.aspx. Hard copies are available on request.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Director of Development and Regeneration — Dated:28th November 2018 PDNOT1022

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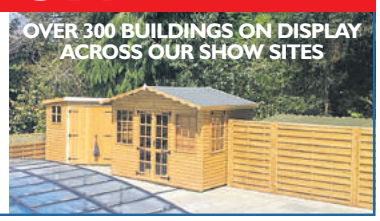

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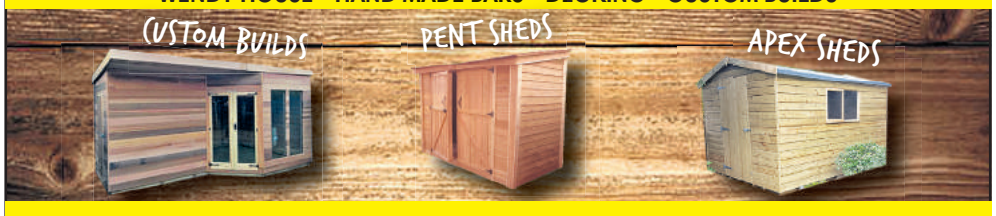

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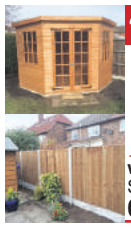

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The Alpine A110 is one of seven cars vying for European Car of the Year honours

Do fewer of us care about our continental car choices while ordering a Full English Brexit?

ONLY in an age of the boss of Nissan-Renault being under arrest, Volkswagen suggesting cable ties as a fix for broken seatbelts and a former Top Gear star vowing to quit TV for good if he wins I'm A Celebrity can the European Car of the Year be considered a bit ho-hum.

The seven-strong short-list was announced on Monday and – from what I could see, at least – seemed to barely register a faint blip on the nation's motoring radar. Part of me likes to think it's because fewer of us care what motoring experts in Sweden or Spain make of the continental car choices when we're busy trying to order a Full English Brexit, but I suspect it's got rather a lot more to do with history not being in their favour. The Renault 9, the 1982 victor which is all but forgotten now, is a prime example.

There are many, many examples of the 60-strong panel of motoring writers – proper, learned scholars of the profession who fuss over mid-range torque and intuitive infotainment systems in the same way I worry about MGs with dead batteries – getting it right. They called it right on the first Focus, a genuine game-changer among family hatchbacks, for instance, and the Rover P6 that won the contest's very first outing is fondly remembered as a brilliant bit of British design.

But every time I look back at the Peugeot 307 picking up the plaudits in 2002 or the me-too VW Polo beating the radical Toyota IQ to the top spot in 2010, I cringe a bit, because it just smacks of going for the best all-rounder rather than the one that genuinely moves the cause of the car forward.

This year's contenders are – deep breath – the Alpine A110, Citroen's C5 Aircross, Ford's latest Focus, the Jaguar i-Pace, the Kia Cee'd, the Mercedes A-Class and Peugeot's 508. I would love to see the 60-strong jury devour a crate of wine between them, throw all caution to the wind and go for the sports car, which is what they did 40 years ago when the Porsche 928 won.

But I'm happy to bet that won't happen (and I'll happily write a column in The Champion eating my words if it does and the Alpine does a Leicester City). If it were up to me it'd be the I-Pace strutting home with the silverware, because it's an eco-friendly, on-message electric car that just happens to look and handle like a Jaguar should - and to hell with the fact you need the thick end of £60,000 to afford one. But it isn't, so I reckon the smart money's on either the Aircross or the 508, both of which are perfectly worthy but a bit forgettable.

Whatever happens, we'll have to wait 'til next March to find out the winner. In a TV special presented by Noel Edmonds, I'd imagine…

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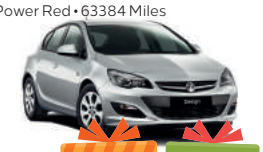

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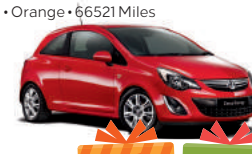

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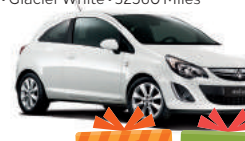

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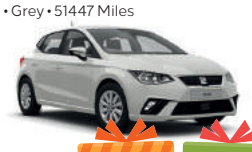

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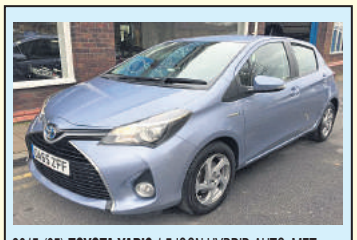

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Burscough bounce back to save point in six-goal thriller

Burscough 3
Padiham 3

BURSCOUGH rescued a point with a late equaliser against Padiham in a six goal thriller.

At the end of a scrappy first-half, injury hit Burscough were a goal down at home to Padiham and moments into the second-half it was 2-0.

The Linnets fought back and equalised, however all seemed lost again when minutes from the end the hosts went 3-2 down, but back came Burscough for a hard earned but deserved 3-3 draw.

The opening goal came when Padiham's Lee Knight was put one-on-one with the Burscough goalkeeper in the seventh minute and he duly put the visitors in front.

From then on Padiham had more of the possession until the interval in a half that disappointed the crowd due to lack of serious goalmouth action.

Burscough struggled to make much impact in attack and needed to be strong at the back.

A couple of minutes into the second-half it looked grim for Burscough as they went 2-0 down, Liam O'Neill finding the net.

To their credit Burscough replied quickly and it was the catalyst to a terrific half of football and who else should get things going than Chad Whyte.

The Linnets goal machine found space on the left-hand side of the Padiham penalty area, then lifted a wonderful curling shot over away goalkeeper Tony Aghayere into the top corner of the net.

When on 51 minutes Will levelled with a shot that got a wicked deflection to beat keeper Aghayere it was anyone's game.

There was plenty of endeavour but no more goals until the latter stages and it kept both sets of supporters enthralled.

It was Padiham who took the lead again, and if Whyte's goal had been a good one this certainly eclipsed it.

With seven minutes remaining on the clock Millenic Alli fired a thunderous free-kick from around 35 yards into the back of the net.

But Burscough are a spirited outfit and were not done.

A series of corners and balls into the goalmouth didn't generate a goal but stoked up the heat on Padiham.

Then just as the pressure was increased even more the Linnets got their saver, in an almighty scramble Jordan Lorde stabbed home the equaliser.

It had been an exciting second-half and a total contrast to the first.

McNally warns players of squad upheaval if results don't improve after latest Skem defeat

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

Market Drayton Town 2
Skelmersdale United 1

SKELMERSDALE United were made to pay for a poor first half when they went down 2-1 and failed to find a crucial equaliser.

Skem travelled down to Shropshire and were forced to leave two of their more experienced players out because of suspension, defender and captain Phil Mooney and anchor man midfielder Tom Molyneux.

They struggled in the first-half and were perhaps a bit fortunate to be only 2-1 down at half-time. In the second period they fought back strongly but were unable to find the crucial equaliser.

Skelmersdale were under pressure early on and after a well floated ball in from the left, home captain Dave Beddows headed wide from a good position.

After the match in his post match interview Skem manager Paul McNally was critical of his side's first-half showing but he was also full of praise for goalkeeper Terry Smith and in the opening period of the half it was clear why he singled him out.

Smith was a busy man, taking out a number of crosses and making one excellent near-post save from Glynn Coney in the tenth minute and another at Charlie Knowles feet.

When the first Market Drayton goal arrived on 21 minutes it was a top class finish.

Initially Smith did well to save from Knowles as the hosts broke clear and the rebound ran to Coney who played the ball sideways to Knowles who curled a well placed shot from about 15 yards over the Skem defence and under the crossbar by the upright.

Skelmersdale took just three minutes to level things up again. Davy Moore and Luke Duffy worked the ball tidily down the right and then Duffy played the ball into a central position for Leon Arnasalem.

He put it into the path of Will Dunne and his left-foot shot from 20 yards beat home goalkeeper Ash Rawlins, the ball going just inside the post to make it 1-1.

Market Drayton went straight back onto the offensive and Ishmael Banks made a fine clearance off the Skelmersdale goal line.

In the 27th minute Market Drayton broke clear via Desean Martin, he pulled the ball back for Coney who in turn moved it to the right-hand side of the penalty area, where number nine Jud Ellis drove the ball across Smith into the far corner to restore the home teams advantage at 2-1.

Will Dunne (left) scored Skem's only goal in the game

Paul McNally said he was pleased that he "got a reaction" from his interval urgings and Skem did a lot better after the restart.

Dunne was having a good game in midfield and the general work rate was excellent, but they were still vulnerable and got lucky when Coney hit one from 30 yards that Smith had no chance with, the crossbar coming to the rescue.

The home team were reduced to ten men after Dunne and home number seven Lyndon Campbell tussled for the ball and it ran clear.

Campbell pushed Dunne and the aggressor received a straight red card and Dunne a yellow one.

So with ten minutes left Skelmersdale faced ten men, it was their big chance.

As the final whistle beckoned Moore did well on the left and sent the ball low to the near-post. Declan Daniels lost his marker and ran in, but at full stretch he could only stab the ball inches wide of the post.

It was fair to say that it was a game of two halves by Skelmersdale but it was full of positives too, especially in the second-half.

After the game Paul McNally described the second-half improvement as "too little too late, we kept going to the end but it wasn't enough."

He added: "It is a young side and I hope I can transform the season around.

"We have got to start scoring more goals and be a bit more savvy, doing the right things that every team at this level is doing.

"There will be a few bodies hopefully being brought in this week; I have given them enough time to turn it over."

McNally then talked about his aims for the season: "My goal this season is to get us out of the bottom spots, keep us in the league and then looking further ahead I want to establish the club higher up the table where they should be."

Burscough boss Terry Green

Warm welcome for festive fixtures as teams look to pick up points

BOTH Burscough and Skem United managers will be looking at their December fixture lists as a chance to pick up some much-needed points.

Skem manager Paul McNally has promised to ring the changes if his side don't start performing after three games without a win.

Saturday effectively sees the proper beginning of McNally's reign in Skem's dug-out.

Although he has had three games, they were fought out with players he inherited, but he has vowed to bring in new faces.

On Saturday Skelmersdale are at home to Kidsgrove Athletic kick off 3pm. The match represents a good opportunity for McNally's Skem to register their first home win of the season.

The Staffordshire team are mid-table with 20 points from 13 games, the downside though is that Kidsgrove are unbeaten away from home in Evo-Stik Division One West action this season, having won four and drawn two of their six away games so far this season.

Burscough have a midweek game this week, and they will have entertained Silsden in a North-West Counties Premier Division match last night (Tuesday, November 27).

Saturday will see them pass Kidsgrove on the M6 as they make the trip down to Staffordshire to play Hanley Town.

The Potteries club won at Burscough on the first day of the season but they have changed manager since and have fallen to 17th place in the league table.

Burscough having a point more than them and two games in hand. It is not known whether Burscough manager Terry Green will have a strong squad to pick from, but he will be hoping that the spate of injuries the Linnets are suffering from over recent weeks eases as his team enter a busy December.

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YOUR LOCAL NEWS IS INSIDE...

Lancashire Care Company Achieve Double 'OUTSTANDING' Rating

CARING COUPLE ACHIEVE FIRST DOUBLE 'OUTSTANDING' RATING IN LANCASHIRE

A caring couple, who set up a local home care business six years ago, have become the first West Lancashire home care provider to receive a double Outstanding rating from the Care Quality Commission (CQC), the independent regulator of health and social care services in England.

Gail and Robert Godson, of Home Instead Senior Care West Lancashire & Chorley, based in Ormskirk, achieved renown in January 2015 when they were one of the first three adult social care services to be judged Outstanding under the CQC's then newly introduced Ofsted style inspection regime.

The couple's latest inspection, published this week, reaffirms the outstanding care provided to the company's clients, with the team clearly demonstrating continuous improvement by achieving Outstanding in four of the five key lines of enquiry and good in the fifth. To date, only 3.3% of domiciliary care service locations in England have received the coveted CQC Outstanding rating.

In this latest report, the Inspector said that 'people and their relatives consistently praised the effective care delivered by staff' and quoted one client as saying "I don't think they could be improved upon."

Gail said, "We employ the most amazing team who share our vision and values and it is thanks to their professionalism and support that we have been able to achieve this accolade and we would like to dedicate this tremendous achievement to all our current and former employees .

"Because the inspectors speak to clients, family members and local health professionals they can see the difference we make to people's lives. We thank them all for their continued support as we work to change the face of ageing in the local area."

The Godson's team's enthusiasm shines through in the report with the company's CAREGivers quoted speaking warmly about their clients.

The couple was praised for 'continuing to be creative and providing support to help integrate people into their local community and combat social isolation'. This was in relation to the many events, community guide, trips and activities organised by the Home Instead team.

Home Instead Senior Care currently delivers quality care to 89 people who are living independently in their own homes. They employ a team of 51 caregivers who are matched to clients based on shared interests and care visits are of a minimum one hour in duration.

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